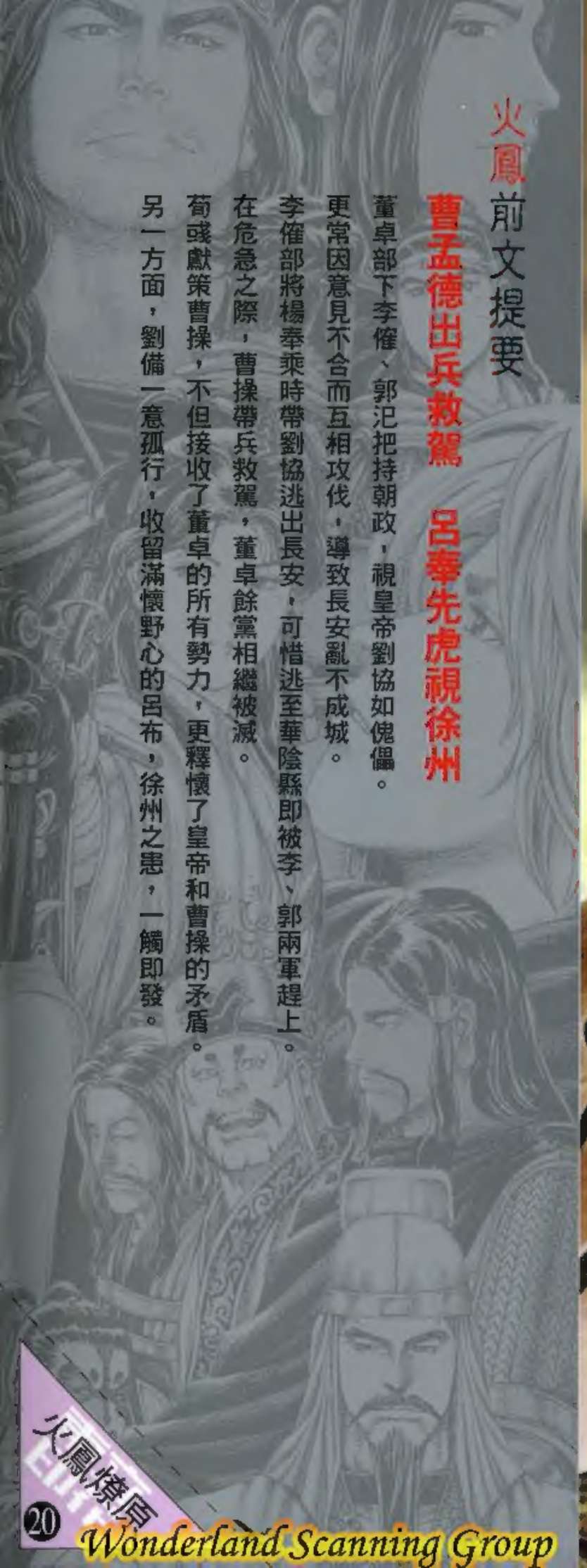


火鳳前文提要

曹孟德出兵救駕　呂奉先虎視徐州

董卓部下李傕、郭汜把持朝政，視皇帝劉協如傀儡。更常因意見不合而互相攻伐，導致長安亂不成城。李傕部將楊奉乘時帶劉協逃出長安，可惜逃至華陰縣即被李、郭兩軍趕上。在危急之際，曹操帶兵救駕，董卓餘黨相繼被滅。荀彧獻策曹操，不但接收了董卓的所有勢力，更釋懷了皇帝和曹操的矛盾。另一方面，劉備一意孤行，收留滿懷野心的呂布，徐州之患，一觸即發。

Wonderland Scanning Group

三國群英傳

火鳳燎原

The Ravages of Time

20

陳某

火鳳燎原
20
陳某

TONG LI COMICS
東立
NT-85

兵殘敗將血淚記

出場人物介紹

司馬家・殘兵陣營

司馬家是河內首屈一指的富戶，家中的八兄弟合稱八達，長子司馬朗曾任漢朝治書御史一職，次子司馬懿則接管家族事務。由於司馬懿才智過人，在他的領導下司馬家在漢末亂世中也能屹立不倒。

小孟 貂嬋

殘兵中的易裝高手，雌雄莫辨，前術稱神，另一身份是艷絕天下的貂嬋。

山無陵

與司馬懿有婚約的山家大小姐，助程普攻皖後被司馬家擄走，更被司馬懿勒索。

司馬懿 字仲達

司馬家的年輕當家，從不做虧本的生意。也是秘密部隊「殘兵」的幕後指揮。

三船 聾啞客

聾可聽、啞能言的外族人，據說是隨秦朝方士徐福出海求仙藥的秦朝名將後人。

郭昂 一手人

殘兵先鋒，殘於左臂，以大鐵鎧補殘缺。個子雖小，但力大無窮！

張雷 單蹄馬

繼承燎原火成為新任殘兵之首。頭腦冷靜，速度極快，以刀代殘腿，殺人於瞬間。

呂布陣營

自濮陽一役後，呂布一直流離失所。在劉備的好心收留下，呂布暫時屯兵小沛。但豈知這是呂布計謀的開始……

張遼 字文遠

雁門郡馬邑縣人，初為丁原部下，後隨呂布投董卓，非常忠心，甚得呂布信任。

陳宮 字公台

東郡人，本為陶謙的部下，後投靠呂布。為呂布出謀獻策，是呂布的首席軍師。

呂布 字奉先

董卓義子，有無敵戰神之美譽，文武兼備但野心勃勃。正在密謀吞併劉備的徐州。

曹豹

本為陶謙部下，後投靠劉備，但實則與呂布一直有來往，更將女兒曹婭獻給呂布。

高順

呂布麾下的一員猛將，綽號「陷陣營」，以領騎兵聞名。非常忠於呂布。

臧霸 字宣高

泰山郡華縣人，呂布的大將，濮陽一役負責防守濮陽北門，曾與曹將夏侯淵大戰。

劉備陣營

劉備是中山靖王劉勝的後人，但年少喪父，自少與母親以賣鞋織蓆為生。後得兩位能敵萬人的義弟幫助，於虎牢關一戰成名。徐州刺史陶謙被殺後，劉備得到陶謙手下的擁戴，當了徐州牧。

張飛 字翼德

劉備三弟，另一身份是桃園農家。文武雙全，在百萬軍中取敵將首級如探囊取物。

關羽 字雲長

河東解良人，劉備的二弟，為人忠義，於虎牢關大敗華雄而知名，有萬人敵稱號！

劉備 字玄德

涿郡涿縣人，愛民如子，與關羽、張飛桃園結義，得兩位兄弟之助於虎牢關聞名。

簡雍 字憲和

涿郡人，和劉備是同鄉好友，一直跟隨劉備左右，與糜竺同為劉備的從事。

陳登 字元龍

徐州富商陳珪之子，陶謙死後投靠劉備，曾與燎原火一起死守郯縣。

糜竺 字子仲

本為陶謙別駕從事，曹操攻徐時，負責往平原請劉備救助，後成為劉備的從事。

袁術陣營

袁術是司空袁逢之子，袁紹的堂弟。官拜漢朝左將軍，與其堂兄袁紹一向不和。自孫策父親孫堅在洛陽找到玉璽後，袁術一直在使手段想把玉璽奪到手，意圖一完帝皇之夢。

橋蕤

袁術麾下的大將之一，自認擁有相人之術。與紀靈、閻象、廖蘭一黨。

紀靈

袁術麾下大將，常與劉勳爭寵。體格魁梧，善使大斧，但並非有勇無謀之人。

袁術 字公路

表面待人以誠，實則為人好大喜功。用奸計奪取孫策手中的玉璽後，密謀稱帝。

劉曄 字子揚

淮南人，漢光武帝兒子阜陵王劉延的後代，自小已經很有才華，劉勳的好友。

劉勳 字子台

廬江太守，與紀靈同為袁術的大將。可是在紀靈眼中，他只是一介武夫。

廖蘭

袁術的將領。曾與黃蓋等到洛陽救人質。後被袁術安排接收皖城，卻被孫策所擒。

孫策陣營

自孫堅戰死後，孫策只得帶著族人投靠袁術。可是袁術卻為了孫策手上的玉璽，不止一次陷害孫策。幸得義弟周瑜的幫助，施計以部下凌操代替自己假死，以脫離袁術的魔掌，自立勢力再奪江東。

孫淑

孫策的妹妹，本是袁方的未婚妻，後又與燎原火有婚約。可是兩次婚約都告吹了。

周瑜 字公瑾

孫策的義弟，也是有名的水鏡五奇。先助孫策逃離袁術，再以詭計助孫策下江東。

孫策 字伯符

孫堅的長子，先投袁術，後以計脫離袁術後，與父親的舊部領兵奪取江東。

韓當 字義公

遼西郡令支縣人，孫堅舊部。孫堅死後全心全意助其子孫策打天下。

黃蓋 字公覆

零陵郡泉陵縣人，孫堅舊部。曾與孫淑一起到洛陽救人質，也曾助孫策攻破皖。

程普 字德謀

右北平郡土垠縣人，孫堅的心腹大將，與孫堅出生入死，後負起照顧孫策的責任。

蔣欽 字公奕

九江郡壽春縣人，聞孫家捲土重來後，立刻和周泰一起率眾追隨孫策。

周泰 字幼平

九江郡下蔡縣人，聞孫家捲土重來後，立刻和蔣欽一起率眾追隨孫策。

朱治 字君理

丹楊郡故鄣縣人，孫堅舊部。孫堅死後與程普、黃蓋、韓當一起輔助孫策。

水鏡陣營

水鏡集團是培育軍師的精舍，門下弟子當中最聞名的非水鏡八奇莫屬。水鏡八奇在出山之前都要戴著面罩，身份極為神秘。已經出山的四奇分別為袁方、荀彧、賈詡和郭嘉，全部都是天才軍師。

水鏡七奇 臥龍

得水鏡老師賜與臥龍之名號。又與司馬懿聯手敗郭嘉。被水鏡老師稱之為「神」。

水鏡六奇 鳳雛

在平陽關解謎後，得水鏡老師賜與鳳雛名號，八奇之中也只有他和七奇可得名號。

司馬徽 字德操

道號水鏡先生，是水鏡集團的創辦人，門下弟子全是獨當一面的名軍師。

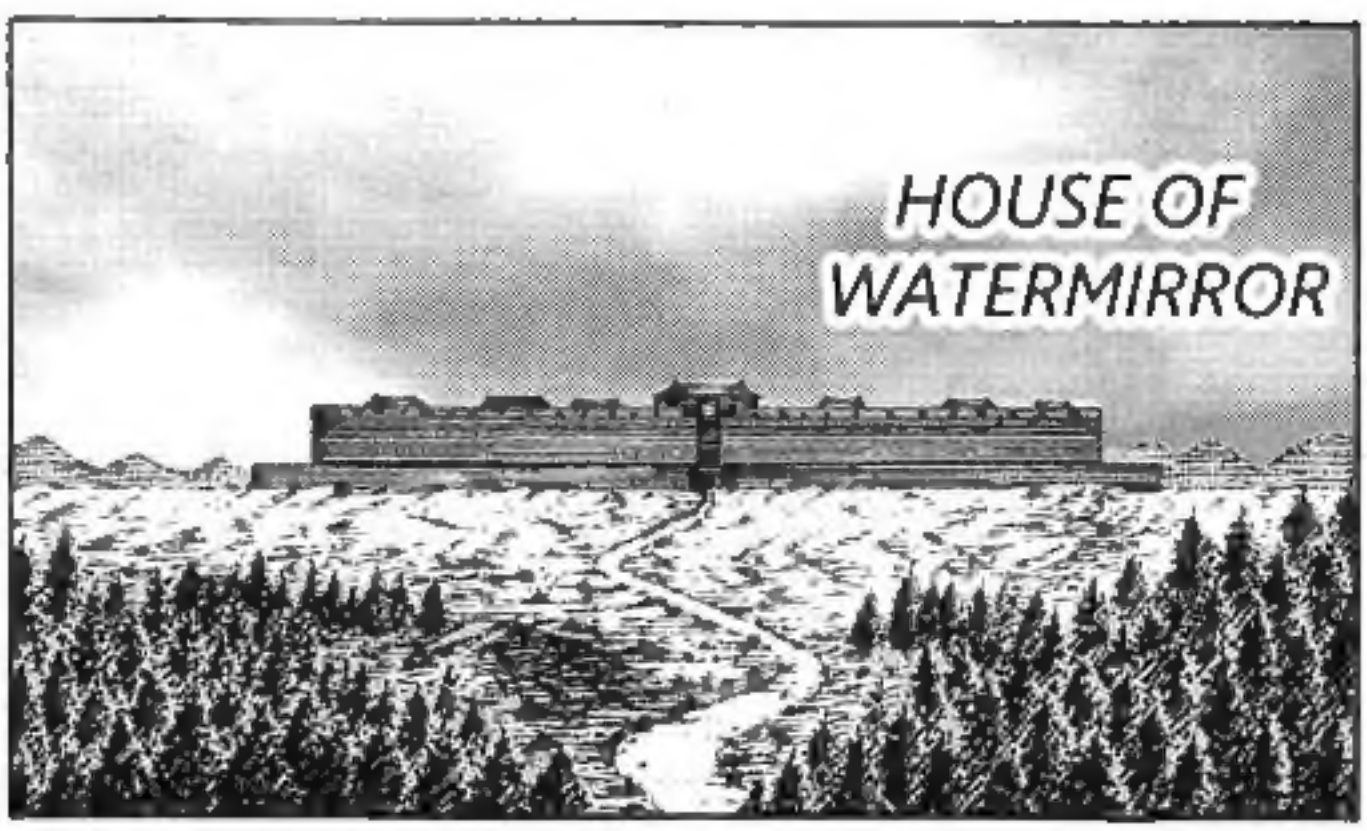
回目

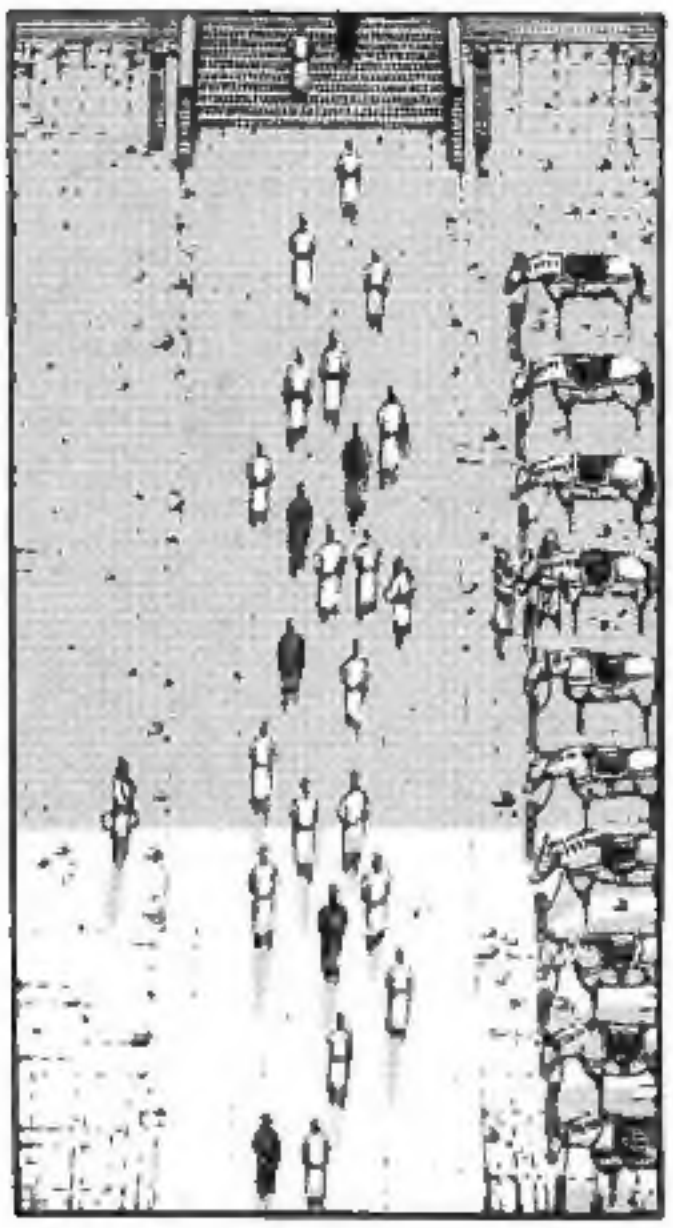
第一百五十九回　智謀有道
第一百六十回　手擁天下
第一百六十一回　有心之人
第一百六十二回　天作之合
第一百六十三回　螳螂捕蟬
第一百六十四回　黃雀在後
第一百六十五回　皇室猶念
第一百六十六回　智強滿道

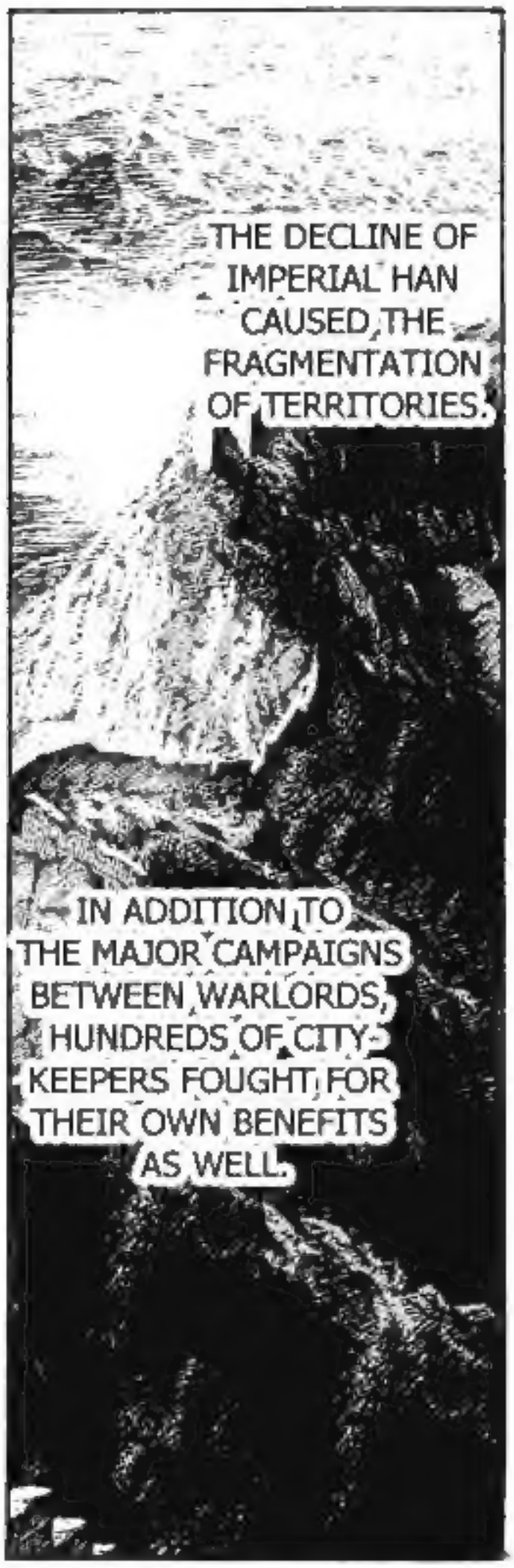
STRATEGIES ARE SET IN STONE,
WHILE RESOURCEFULNESS
IS THE TRUE ESSENCE.
("STRATEGY IS A DEAD THING")

SUCCESS IS THE ACT,
WHILE HAVING
PRINCIPLES IS
THE TRUE ESSENCE.

STRATEGIES AND
RESOURCEFULNESS;
ACHIEVING SUCCESS
AND HAVING PRINCIPLES.
(YOU CAN INTERPRET THE SECOND PART IN
TWO WAYS, ANOTHER IS, "THERE IS A WAY TO SUCCEED")







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EDITS: KI SHODAR, HTTP://MEMBERS.OPTUSNET.COM.AU/SHODAR

CHAPTER 159 PRINCIPLED BRILLIANCE

GENERAL CHEN, I ALMOST DIDN'T RECOGNIZE YOU WITHOUT YOUR UNIFORM.

WE MEET AGAIN, ADVISOR DONG.

YES. UNTIL ANOTHER DAY IN BATTLE.

TODAY WE SHOULD TALK ONLY OF ACADEMICS, NOT OLD GRUDGES.

MAKE WAY!

MILITARY REPORT, MAKE WAY!

THAT FLAG MEANS OUR SIDE CONTINUES TO BE AHEAD.

ONCE I RETURN I'LL SURELY TURN THE SITUATION AROUND.

MILITARY REPORT, MAKE WAY!

GOT IT!

SONG LI'S ARMY PUSHES FROM THE EAST ROUTE AND HAS TAKEN TWO CITIES!

NO WONDER MASTER WATERMIRROR KNOWS THE WORLD'S EVENTS WITHOUT LEAVING THE HOUSE.

SONG AND LIANG'S BATTLE? THEY KNOW ABOUT THAT EVEN FROM THIS FAR?

THE SIXTH COURTYARD... THAT BOY AGAIN!

NO WAY! FOR TWO DAYS HE'S BEEN REPEATING THE SAME THING.

WHO'S TEACHING TODAY?

OH NO, AT THE SIXTH COURT-YARD AGAIN.

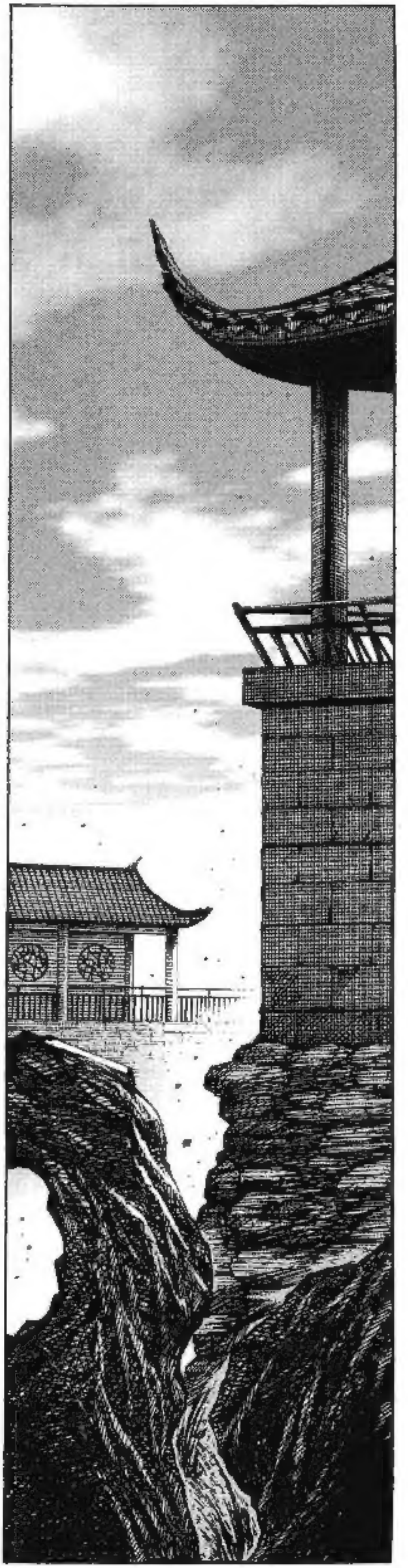
SONG LI'S ARMY WILL TAKE TWO CITIES.

LIANG PING'S ARMY WILL RETREAT TEN LI, THEN HOLD THEIR GROUND.

CORRECT, THE SCOUT SAID SONG LI'S ARMY TOOK TWO CITIES.

THEN PREDICT THE NEXT STEP.

LIANG PING WILL REMAIN IN DEFENSE AND WAIT FOR A TURNING POINT.



WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

BUT SONG LI WILL SOON WITHDRAW HIS FORCES.

SINCE LIANG PING WILL NOT CONFRONT THEM, SONG LI'S ARMY COULD ONLY STRIKE THE EAST SIDE.

WITH-DRAW? WHY DO YOU THINK SO?

ARE YOU ... EXHAUS-TED?

SONG LI'S ARMY IS MANY TIMES BIGGER THAN LIANG PING'S ARMY. AND WITH SUCH A HIGH MORALE, WHY COULDN'T THEY BREAK THE ENEMY?

YES, I WOULD LIKE A BREAK.

GIVE ME A SUM-MARY.

FIFTEEN CONSECU-TIVE ROUNDS, ALL CORRECT.

IT APPEARS THAT HE'S DISTRACTED.

IT'S A PITY THAT HE THOUGHT UP THIS ONE SO CASUALLY. SONG LI'S ARMY OBVIOUSLY HAS THE UPPER HAND, YET HE...

ADVISOR'S LESSON: TREAT THE CLASS-ROOM LIKE A BATTLEFIELD, WITH CALM-NESS AS A BASIS.

MUST NOT GET PERSONAL ...

MASTER, WHY NOT JUST LET HIM GO HOME.

(HERE "MASTER" IS NOT "TEACHER" BUT THE HEAD OF THE HOUSEHOLD)

SEND SOMEONE TO HIS HOME,

AND TAKE CARE OF HIS UNCLE'S FUNERAL.

STRATEGY, AS THEY SAY, AMOUNTS TO ONLY ONE (TYPE).

NOT... NOT AGAIN.

YOU ALREADY TAUGHT THIS LESSON ... YESTER-DAY.

MISTER FLEDGLING PHOENIX, CAN YOU TEACH US SOMETHING NEW?

NO, I'LL KEEP SAYING IT UNTIL YOU PEOPLE UNDERSTAND.

IN THE BEGINNING YOU WANT THE ENEMY TO KNOW YOUR NEXT MOVE.

THEN, YOU CAREFULLY PREDICT HIS EVERY MOVE AFTER THAT.

IF YOU'RE REALLY TALENTED, YOU LET HIM KNOW YOUR NEXT THREE MOVES.

IF YOU'RE TALENTED, YOU LET HIM KNOW YOUR NEXT TWO MOVES.

SO YOU KNOW? THEN WHY IS YOUR LORD LIANG PING LOSING LIKE THAT?

NEXT...

STINKING BRAT! YOU... YOU...

COMPO-SURE, MISTER DONG.

ENOUGH! MISTER FLEDGLING PHOENIX, WE COME HERE FOR THREE DAYS AND YOU TALKED GIBBERISH FOR THREE DAYS!

WHAT YOU HAVE SAID ARE ALL COMMON KNOWLEDGE. CAN'T YOU TEACH US SOMETHING USEFUL?

IF YOU'RE REALLY REALLY TALENTED...

CLASS IS OVER? SO EARLY TODAY...

THIS CONCEPT MIGHT BE TOO DEEP FOR THEM.

I ONLY TEACH THE ESSENCE. IF THEY DON'T GET IT ON DAY ONE, THERE'S DAY TWO, AND DAY THREE.

WHEN IT COMES TO STRATEGIES, HOW MANY PEOPLE CAN UNDERSTAND THE REASON FOR RESOURCEFULNESS?

SAYING THEY'RE FOR THE PEOPLE, BUT THEY'RE JUST FOR THEMSELVES.

AND HOW MANY OF THESE WAR-MONGERS CAN TRULY UNDERSTAND THE SUFFERING OF THE PEOPLE?

IN THE END, CALLS FOR A DYNASTY-CHANGE ONLY PITS THE COMMON FOLKS AGAINST EACH OTHER.

SO YOUR IDEAL STILL REVOLVES AROUND RESTORING IMPERIAL HAN?

IT'S JUST A WAY OF SETTING AN EXAMPLE, TO TEACH PEOPLE NOT TO USE DYNASTY-CHANGE AS EXCUSE FOR BLOODSHED.

HUMANS ARE BORN GOOD. THE FAULT OF KING ZHOU'S EVIL IS ON THE CORRUPT OFFICIALS HE GREW UP WITH.

BLAME IT ON THE SCARCITY OF GOOD-INTENTIONED ADVISE, AND ON THE MIND-LESS SYCO-PHANTS.

WHEN IT COMES TO ACHIEVING SUCCESS, HOW MANY PEOPLE CAN UNDERSTAND THE REASON FOR HAVING PRINCIPLES?

SO YOU MEAN... YOU WILL STILL SUPPORT THE EMPEROR EVEN IF HE IS KING ZHOU?

I'LL GLADLY SUBSTITUTE FOR YOUR CLASS TOMORROW.

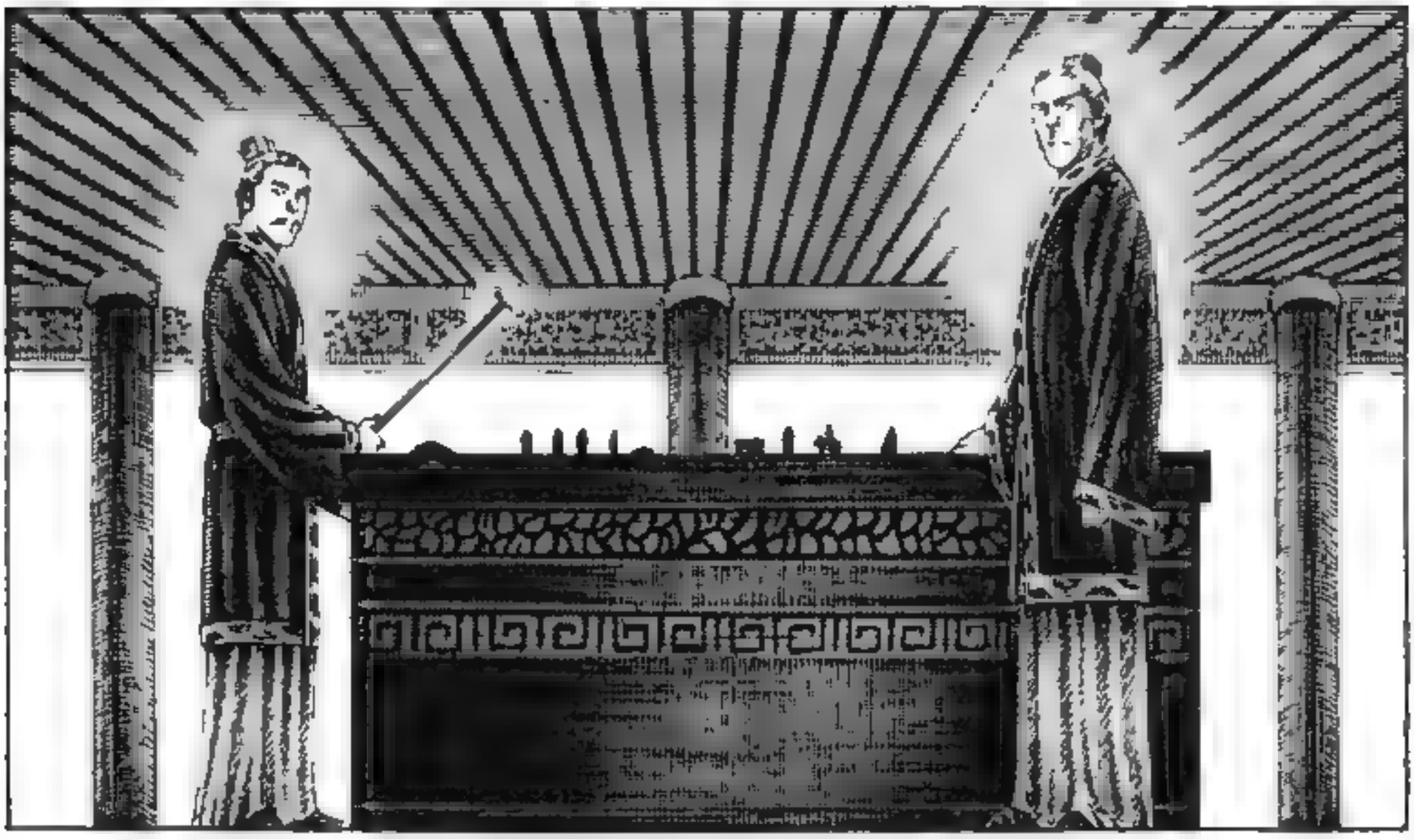
IT'S GOOD TO BE LOYAL, BUT FILIAL PIETY IS ALSO IMPORTANT. YOUR UNCLE RAISED YOU, SO WHY AREN'T YOU MOURNING AT HOME?

NO NEED.

THEN CAN YOU TELL ME WHAT YOU'RE TEACHING THEM?

THREE DAYS OF "THE WAY OF A LOYALIST."

FULL DEVOTION UNTIL DEATH.



AFTER TEACHING FOR MORE THAN HALF OF MY LIFETIME, FINALLY...

THE CONTINUOUS RAINY WEATHER CAUSED SONG LI TO WITHDRAW. SIXTEEN ROUNDS ALL CORRECT - A NEW RECORD.

A GOD IS BEFORE ME!

HOW MANY STRATEGISTS
CAN UNDERSTAND THE
WAY OF RESOURCEFULNESS?

HOW MANY WARMONGERS
CAN TRULY UNDERSTAND
THE SUFFERING OF THE
COMMON FOLKS?

SHOUCHUN

BACK OFF!

BACK OFF!

SO TALL ... IT COULD BE THE WORLD'S NUMBER ONE TOWER.

THAT SHOWS THE PRESTIGE OF THE EMPIRE.

I... I SEE THE TOP.

TRANSLATIONS: MERC HTTP://MERCURYSBLOOD.LIVEJOURNAL.COM/21240.HTML
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CHAPTER 160 EMBRACE THE WORLD

LIKE QIN DYNASTY'S EPANG PALACE.

AND JUST AS POWERFUL.

QIAO RUI

I'VE HEARD GOOD THINGS BEING SAID BY THE PEOPLE ON MY WAY HERE.

THANKS TO THE BRAGGINGS OF THOSE SCHOLARLY MEN.

JI LING

AFTER SO MANY REVISIONS, IT'S FINALLY BUILT.

BUT THAT WAS QUITE FAST.

HOO! MONEY CAN MAKE ANY-THING HAPPEN.

THE NEWEST REPORT SAYS THAT LU BU HAS ENTERED XUZHOU AND IS TEMPORARILY STATIONED IN XIAOPEI.

ANY NEWS FROM LIAO LAN?

OUR LORD HAS RECEIVED HIS SECRET REPORT. LOOKS LIKE TAKING BACK WAN WON'T BE A PROBLEM.

THOUGH... CAO CAO IS BUSY TRYING TO APPEASE THE PEOPLE OF CHANGAN. HE MUST BE SPENDING WAY MORE THAN US.

WHY CARE ABOUT THAT? RIGHT NOW ALL OF OUR ENEMIES ARE EXTREMELY BUSY. WE SHOULD RULE OVER ALL OF EASTERN REGION'S SMALL CITIES BEFORE THEY DO.

THE PLAN HAS BEEN GOING SMOOTHLY, WHY THE SUDDEN CHANGE?

LIU XUN? DIDN'T I ORDER HIM TO GUARD LUJIANG? HOW...

BUT ACCORDING TO OUR LORD'S WISHES... THAT TASK HAS BEEN ASSIGNED TO GENERAL LIU XUN.

THE DESIGN OF THIS PALACE IS GREAT. I CAN HEAR THAT LITTLE COMPL-AINT ALL THE WAY OVER HERE.

HE'S RIGHT. I, THE EMPEROR, HAVE WILLED IT SO.

HOO, TIME TO CALL (HIM) "HIS MAJESTY".

MY VALUED MINISTER, YOU MUST HAVE THOUGHT YOU WOULD BE THE ONE TAKING THE EASTERN REGIONS, YES?

YUAN SHU

INTERESTING. NO WONDER ALL THE INTERNAL SQUABBLES ALWAYS HAVE MORE "THOUGHTFULNESS" TO THEM THAN CIVILIAN MUTINIES.

I DARE NOT, BUT... LIU XUN IS JUST A FIGHTER; THAT'S WHY I SENT HIM TO GUARD, NOT ATTACK.

THIS IS WHAT LIU XUN SENT IN.

THAT'S... LIAO LAN'S WRITING! SUN... SUN...

SUN

IS

CE

NOT

DEAD!?

THE TIGER IS FREE AND WILL TAKE THE EAST.
A TOUGH GUY LIKE LIAO LAN HAS REALLY DONE US A GREAT SERVICE BEFORE HIS DEATH.

THE BETTER NEWS IS... HAD LIU XUN NOT PREEMPTIVELY BLOCKED THE ROADS OF WAN, SUN CE WOULD HAVE ALREADY JOINED HIS FORMER SUBORDINATES IN THE SOUTH.

THE EVEN BETTER NEWS IS... AT THIS TIME OF EMERGENCY I, THE EMPEROR CAN FINALLY SEE THE TRUE ABILITIES OF MY VASSALS.

IF THE TIGER IS RELEASED BACK TO HIS MOUNTAIN, IT'LL LEAD TO AN ENDLESS AMOUNT OF TROUBLE.

YOU TWO ARE LIKE MY VALUED RIGHT HAND. AND AS SUCH, YOU SHOULD JUST FOCUS ON THE STATE OF AFFAIRS ON THE RIGHT SIDE. NO NEED TO SHIFT BETWEEN LEFT AND RIGHT.

PA~

AND MY LEFT HAND WILL FORCE-FULLY TAKE THE EASTERN REGIONS FOR MY HEGEMONY.

AS LONG AS THE TWO SIDES WORK TOGETHER, I, THE EMPEROR, CAN SIT ON THE THRONE,

AND STILL BE ABLE TO REACH FOR WORLD DOMINATION.

OH!

LUJIANG.
SHUXIAN

LOOK! THIS ALL SHOWS MY LORD'S APPROVAL OF ME.

LIU XUN

THE EASTERN REGION HAS EXPECTED SUN CE TO COME, BUT THEY DON'T KNOW THAT THERE'S DANGER BEHIND THEM FROM SHUXIAN.

SURREPTITIOUSLY COME IN UNDER THE BANNER OF THE SUN CLAN...

THE EASTERN REGION WILL BECOME UNIFIED, AND MY LORD WILL BE PRAISED FOR HIS RIGHTEOUS ACT.

THE CRIME WILL BE PINNED ON SUN CE, NOT MY BENEVOLENT LORD.

NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, YOU HAVE CHANGED ALL THE PLANS OF JI LING'S FACTION.

THEN LATER WHEN MY LORD WAGES WAR TO AVENGE THE LOSSES OF THE EASTERN REGION AND DEFEATS SUN CE...

LORD YUAN IS A WISE LEADER. HOW COULD HE NOT ADMIRE GENERAL LIU'S WISDOM.

YOU MEAN AFTER I ENTER THE EASTERN REGION, THE TASK TO ELIMINATE SUN CE WILL BE GIVEN TO JI LING?

YET I CAN STILL BEAT JI LING TO THE PUNCH?

ZHOU YU

NOW THAT YOU HAVE GAINED MILITARY COMMAND, GENERAL LIU, YOU SHOULD TAKE A STEP FURTHER.

SUN CE IS THE SON OF A FAMOUS GENERAL, SO HE WILL HAVE MANY SKILLED FOLLOWERS. KILLING HIM DEFINITELY REQUIRES A LARGE FORCE.

IN ADDITION, LORD YUAN MUST, FOR HIS REPUTATION'S SAKE, AVOID A DIRECT CONFRONTATION. THEREFORE HE CAN ONLY ACT SECRETLY. IT'S DIFFICULT...

IN ORDER TO TAKE THE EASTERN REGION, SUN CE WILL HAVE TO MAKE THE CITY OF DONGAN HIS MILITARY BASE.

ONE MUST KNOW THAT THE CITY OF DONGAN IS A STRATEGICALLY VITAL POSITION. IT'S EASY TO GUARD, HARD TO INVADE.

IF SUN CE CAN TAKE DONGAN, HE WILL BE ABLE TO DEFEND AGAINST LORD YUAN AS WELL AS AID THE TRANSPORT OF MATERIALS TO WAN.

I'M DEEPLY IMPRESSED BY YOUR EXTRAORD-INARY INTELLIGENCE, MISTER ZHOU, DO TELL.

YOU CAN TRY TO ADVANCE INTO THE EASTERN REGION FIRST, THEN FAKE A LOSS AND ASK FOR AID FROM DONGAN.

YOU MEAN... LURE SUN CE HERE TO DIE?

AT THE SAME TIME, DONGAN'S FORCES WILL NOT BE HEADING TO THE EASTERN REGION BUT THE CITY OF WAN.

IF SUN CE SEES THE MOBILIZATION FROM DONGAN, HE WILL TRY TO TAKE THE CITY WHEN IT'S WEAK, NOT KNOWING THAT THERE WILL BE AN AMBUSH.

SUN CE WILL DIE BECAUSE HE DOESN'T RETURN A FAVOR; JI LING WILL LOSE BECAUSE HIS TACTICS ARE NO MATCH FOR YOURS.

AFTER LORD YUAN OFFICIALLY DECLARES HIMSELF THE EMPEROR, THE POSITION OF GENERAL-IN-CHIEF...

WAN.
OUTSIDE OF
THE CITY

LIAO
LAN

CHENG PU

THERE'S AMBITION, AND THERE'S PLOY.

HAN DANG

ZHU ZHI

HUANG GAI

THERE'S THE WILL OF HEAVEN, AND THERE'S THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE.

("UP HIGH THERE'S HEAVEN'S WILL, DOWN LOW THERE'S PEOPLE'S WILL")

HEAVEN, I WILL ASK YOU AGAIN,

NOW, EVERYTHING'S IN MY HAND.

ARE YOU ON MY SIDE?

WILL YOU PROTECT ME?

SUN CE

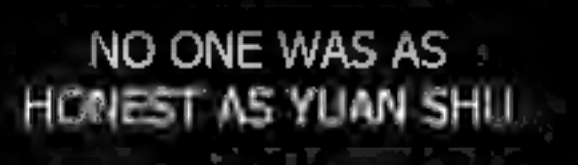
QIN IS STILL SHORTLIVED;

NO MATTER HOW BIG THE EPANG PALACE IS,

NO MATTER HOW BIG THE THRONE IS,

MORTAL'S HANDS STILL CANNOT COVER THE SKY.

THE FUNNY THING IS, NO MATTER
HOW MANY HEGEMONS OR
REASONS FOR SAVING THE
EMPIRE THERE WERE...


NO ONE WAS AS
HONEST AS YUAN SHU

THE WORLD IS IN CHAOS BECAUSE THE PEOPLE HAVE GROWN ACCUSTOMED TO LIES.

XIAPI

BIG BROTHER HAS WARNED US, THIRD BROTHER, DON'T...

I GOT IT.

SCANNER: HMM. WONDERLAND SCANNING G-
EDITS: KI SHODAR, HTTP://MEMBERS.OPTUSNET.COM.AU/SHO-

CHAPTER 161 A MAN OF INTENTION

THE TRIP MUST HAVE BEEN TIRING, BROTHER LU BU.

(HE'S REFERRING TO LÜ BU AS "OLDER BROTHER")

YOU WELCOME ME IN PERSON, BROTHER LIU, I REALLY...

BROTHER, WATCH YOUR MANNERS!

LÜ BU, WHO'RE YOU CALLING BROTHER? MY BIG BROTHER IS THE EMPEROR'S...

嘩

DISPERSE! GET RID OF THOSE THINGS!

GET YOUR ASS OUT OF XUZHOU!

TRAITOR OF IMPERIAL HAN! GET YOUR ASS OUT OF XUZHOU!

THREE NAME SLAVE! GET YOUR ASS OUT OF XUZHOU!

("THREE-LASTNAME-FAMILY-SLAVE": HAVING MULTIPLE LASTNAMES IMPLIES HIS LACK OF LOYALTY)

THEN I REALLY MUST TAKE MY LEAVE.

BROTHER LIU, IF THIS IS HOW YOU WELCOME PEOPLE...

NO, THEY WERE SUPPOSED TO WELCOME YOU, (VIRTUOUS) BROTHER, BUT I DON'T KNOW WHEN...

FOR-WARD!

IS THIS YOUR HANDI-WORK?

HOW DO I KNOW.

GET THEM OUT OF HERE! THIS IS OUTRAGEOUS!

RALLYING THE COMMON FOLKS IS A NICE MOVE.

HOW DO YOU LIKE IT?

HONESTLY THIS IS GOING TO BE ONE SUFFOCATING BANQUET. GET THE HELL OUT ONCE YOU FINISH EATING.

IF THE PEOPLE OF XUZHOU ARE UNDER YOUR CONTROL, HOW CAN WE GET A FOOTHOLD? NICE, NICE.

HAHA, WE'VE FOUND COMMON GROUND AGAIN.

...

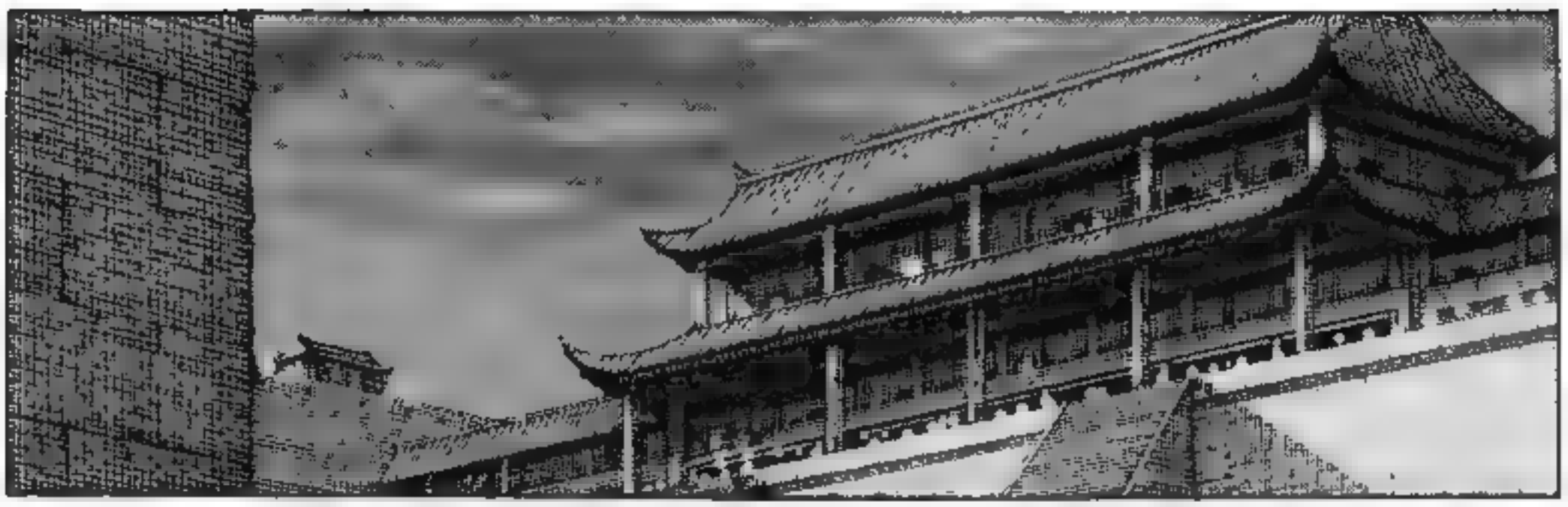
I'VE HEARD SO MUCH ABOUT YOU.

THIS IS XUZHOU'S RICHEST MAN CHEN GUI'S SON, CHEN DENG.

HERE HERE, DRINK TO YOUR HEART'S CONTENT.

THIS IS THE TRUTH, BROTHER LU. THAT CROWD OF PEOPLE JUST DON'T UNDER-STAND.

IF BACK THEN GENERAL LU HADN'T ATTACKED THE CAO ARMY FROM BEHIND, HOW COULD THERE BE PEACE IN XUZHOU TODAY?



HE'S ALMOST DRUNK.
HOW ABOUT NOW?

WAIT FOR MY COMMAND.

AH

HOW'S THAT? I'M ALMOST DRUNK - JUST THE RIGHT TIME TO KILL ME!

YOU DON'T SCARE ME. WANNA DIE? WATCH THIS!

SIR ZHANG! SIR ZHANG!

SIR ZHANG!

PA~

HAHA, ZHANG LIAO CERTAINLY IS A FAVORITE AMONG THE GIRLS.

GENERAL ZHANG IS SO AWESOME!

KEEP IT UP!

FAVORITE? BUT THE PEOPLE OF XUZHOU REALLY LOVE YOU, BROTHER.

IF I WERE YOU, AND IN XUZHOU...

THE PEOPLE LOVE ME? IN THIS DAY AND AGE... THAT SHOULDN'T BE SAID. I THINK BROTHER LU IS REALLY DRUNK.

GENERAL LU, THIS IS XU DAN, A WEALTHY MERCHANT FROM DANYANG.

APOLOGIES FOR MY TARDINESS.

BROTHER LU IS DRUNK, PLEASE EXCUSE HIM, BROTHER XU. PLEASE, SIT HERE!

THANK YOU, IMPERIAL UNCLE.

XU DAN OF DANYANG? WHY DID YOU FLEE TO XUZHOU?

DANYANG IS A BARREN PLACE, HARD FOR GROWTH. I CAME BECAUSE I WANT TO SERVE A CAPABLE LORD.

A CAPABLE LORD...

THE WORLD IS IN CHAOS. IF I'M LIU BEI, I'D DEFINITELY...

PONG~

I SEE! SO THEY WERE ALL LISTENING...

HOW EMBARRASSING. MY LORD TENDS TO JOKE AROUND WHEN HE'S DRUNK, PLEASE, EVERYONE, DON'T... DON'T MIND HIM.

BROTHER LIU ALWAYS TREATS PEOPLE WITH HONESTY,

NOT AT ALL. I SAY EVEN CRAZIER THINGS WHEN I'M DRUNK.

HOW CAN I NOT TELL YOU... WHAT I'M REALLY THINKING ABOUT?

IF I WERE YOU... I WOULD JOIN FORCES WITH LU BU, AND...

CONQUER THE WORLD!

HE LEFT.

YES, HE LEFT.

THE NEXT MORNING

HE'S DONE FOR.

SEEING HOW NERVOUS ZHANG LIAO WAS,

AND THIS GUY...

IT'S SO FUNNY!

HOO!

FUNNY? I WAS BARELY ABLE TO HOLD UP THE ACT, BUT YOU...

IT'S FUNNY HOW THEY ALL LOOKED SO NERVOUS!

HOW DOES THE SAID CONQUEST WORK?

ZHANG LIAO!

KNOW HOW TO MAKE A GOOD INVESTMENT, INV...

THEN, WHAT ABOUT BUSINESS-MEN?

YOU'RE A SMART MAN. SURELY YOU MUST KNOW WHAT I WANT TO SAY.

INVEST...

LIKE YOU SAID, ALLY WITH THE WEAK TO FIGHT THE STRONG. BUT THAT'S DIFFE-RENT FROM OUR GOAL.

LIU BEI IS A GOOD MAN, YES, BUT HE LACKS AMBITION.

THE EMPEROR IS BEING CONTROLLED, THUS THE LOYALISTS WILL ONLY BE USED TO CONQUER THE WORLD.

YOU SERVED TAO QIAN FIRST, THEN LU BU, SO YOU SHOULD UNDERSTAND MY POINT.

ONE MUST KNOW HOW TO MAKE A GOOD INVESTMENT, NOT TO WASTE MONEY ON AN IDLER.

THE GOD OF WAR IS NO FAKE, FOR HE EVEN KILLED A STABLE POWER LIKE DONG ZHUO.

THEN HOW DO YOU VIEW LU BU, BROTHER XU?

SO IT SEEMS THAT FUNDING IS A KEY FACTOR TO THE BIG PICTURE,

BUT AFTER WANG YUN'S DEATH, LU BU HAS BECOME DESTITUTE, WANDERING FROM PLACE TO PLACE.

AND I LIKE MEN WHO ACT ON THEIR AMBITIONS.

THEN I'M HAPPY TO ARRANGE A MEETING.

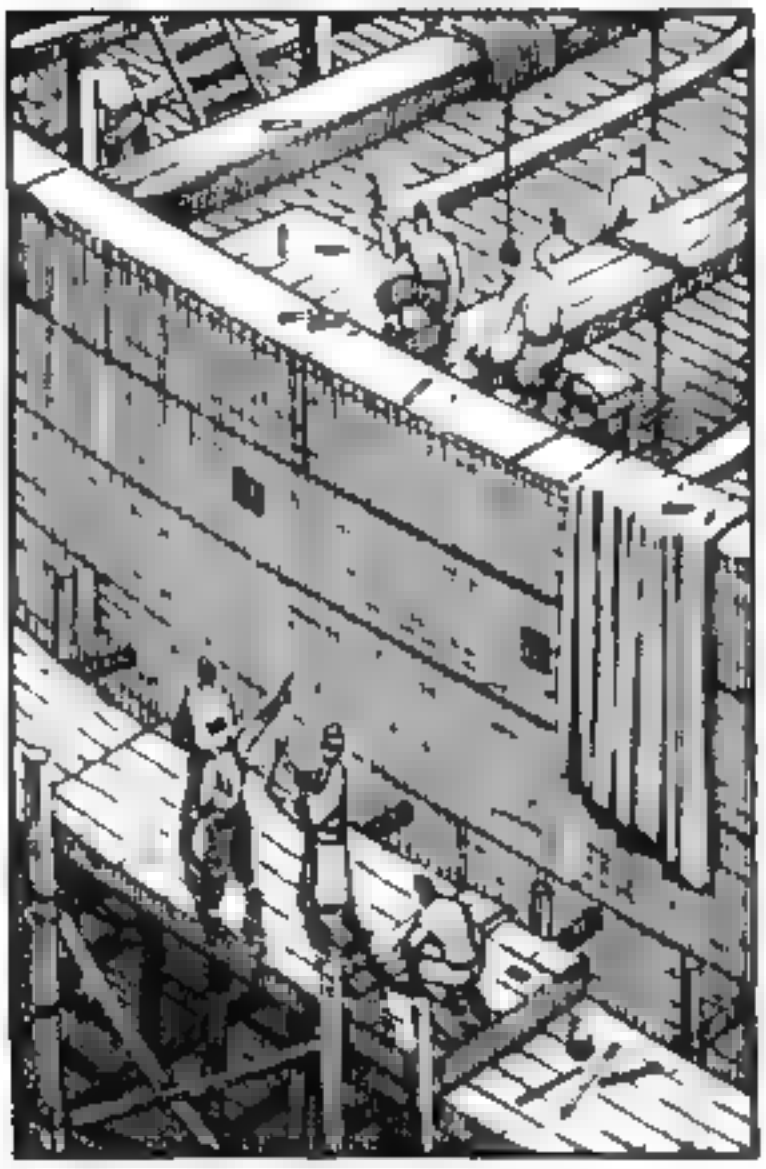
MY HONEST WORDS WERE FOR A MAN OF INTENTION.

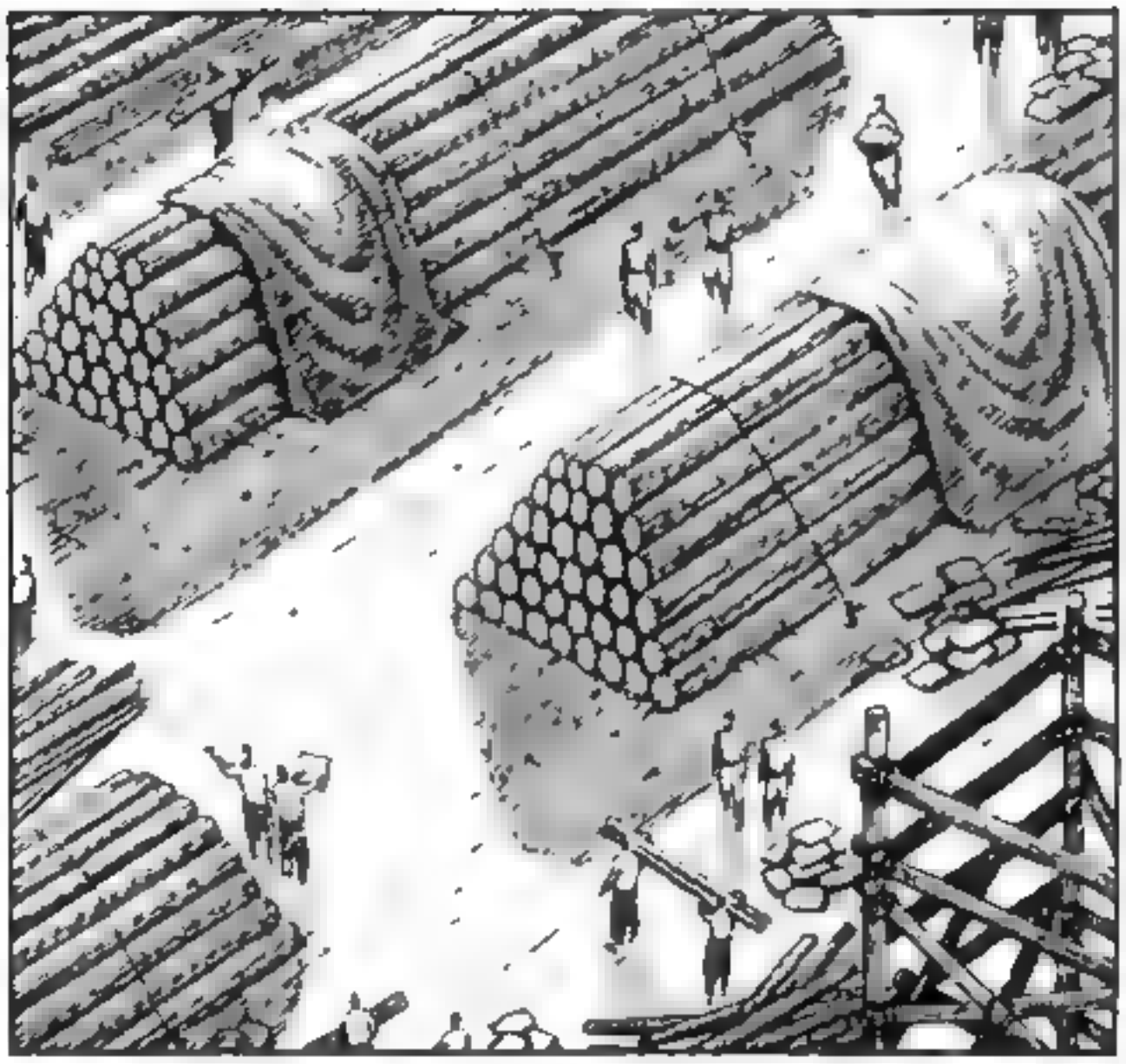
THE KING ZHUANGXIANG OF QIN ROSE TO POWER...

(BECAUSE) LÜ BU WEI
KNEW HOW TO MAKE
A GOOD INVESTMENT.

THE WAY OF BUSINESS:
HONESTY MAKES IT LAST; (WHILE)
MONOPOLY IS A PRIORITY.
MOVE IN WHEN THE TIME IS RIGHT,
AND MERGING IS A FUNDAMENTAL.
FORGET OLD MISGIVINGS, AND
EVERY VENTURE SHOULD BE PROFITABLE

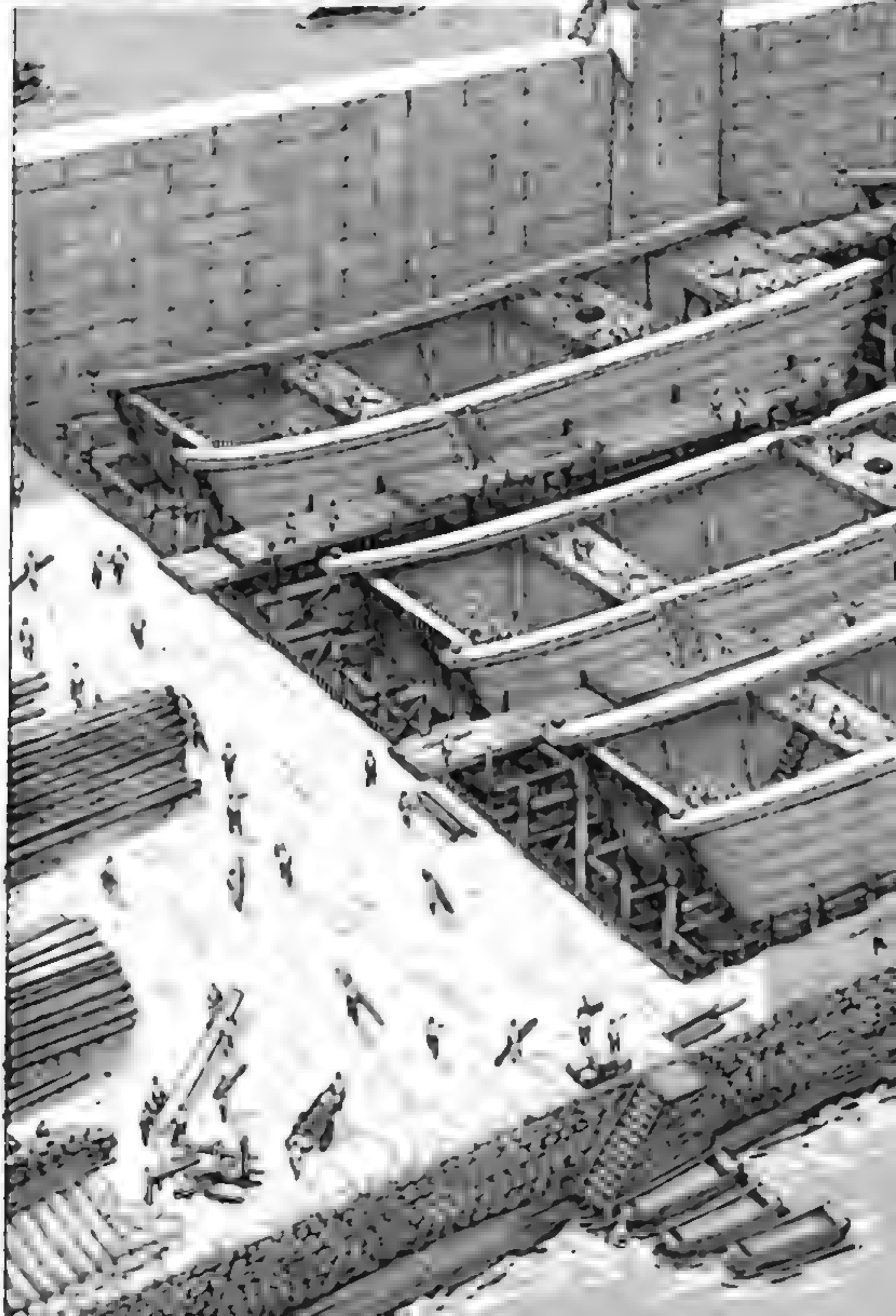
EAST SHORE OF LUJIANG





SCANNER: HMM, WONDERLAND SCANNING GROUP
TRANSLATIONS: MERC, HTTP://MERCURYSBLOOD.LIVEJOURNAL.COM/21240.HTML
EDITS: KI SHODAR, HTTP://MEMBERS.OPTUSNET.COM.AU/SHODAR

CHAPTER 162 A MATCH MADE IN HEAVEN



I HEARD THE PRICE FOR WOOD ROSE AGAIN.

DON'T WORRY. TRUST IS IMPORTANT TO US BUSINESS-MEN, SO WE WON'T CHARGE YOU MORE THAN WHAT YOU ALREADY AGREED TO.

FRANKLY, IF WE HADN'T KEPT TO THE PRINCIPLES, WE WOULD HAVE ENDED UP LIKE THOSE EARLIER SHIPYARDS...

THESE YEARS IT'S RARE TO FIND MERCHANTS WHO KEEP TO THEIR PRINCIPLES. YOU ARE EXEMPLARY AMONG THE BUSINESSMEN, MISTER HUANG.

YOU FLATTER ME.

HONEST DEALINGS HAS ALWAYS BEEN THE WAY OF OUR SHIPYARD BUSINESS.

RIGHT. THE WORLD CHANGES AS TIME GOES BY; WHO WOULD'VE THOUGHT THEY WOULD SUDDENLY CLOSE DOWN...

GOOD, THEN I'LL BUY TEN MORE.

TO THANK YOUR APPRECIATION, I'LL BE SURE TO DELIVER ON TIME.

HE DIDN'T SAY, BUT IT'S OBVIOUS.

IS HE FROM THE SUN CLAN?

BOSS WAS RIGHT. SUN CE REALLY IS GOING FOR THE EASTERN REGION.

BUT YUAN SHU MIGHT BE ONE STEP AHEAD. THEIR SHIPS THAT WE DELIVERED YESTERDAY ARE ALREADY UNDERGOING REMODELING.

咦

PA~

HOW DARE YOU! THIS AREA IS OFF LIMITS TO LOWLY SERVANTS!

I SAY, WHY WON'T YOU WEAR SOMETHING DIFFERENT?

IT'S EASIER WITH SERVANT OUTFITS.

GOOD NEWS, YUAN SHU ASKED FOR FIFTY SHIPS FROM US THROUGH SOMEONE ELSE.

I KNOW, THAT'S WHY I PURPOSELY DESIGNED IT THAT WAY.

HE'LL CHANGE IT TO DOUBLE-MAST,

AND ADD A SEPARATOR IN THE (SHIP'S) HOLD, SO HE CAN HIDE SOLDIERS UNDER THE LAYER OF FOOD SUPPLIES - SENDING BOTH DOWN TO THE EASTERN REGION.

RIGHT. I REMEMBER WHEN THIS DESIGN WAS FIRST SHOWN TO THE BUILDERS THEY SNICKERED AND SAID IT WON'T WORK.

BUT WHO KNEW... THAT IT TURNED OUT TO BE THE BEST-SELLING MODEL NOW.

THAT MAN BOUGHT ANOTHER TEN TODAY.

EXECELLENT. DON'T MAKE IT TOO EXPENSIVE, SO WE CAN GAIN MORE LATER.

SO WHAT ABOUT THE BUYER FROM THE SUN CLAN?

OF COURSE, BUT FROM YUAN SHU'S MAN I ASKED FOR MORE, SAYING THAT THE PRICE FOR WOOD HAS INCREASED.

OUR SHIPYARD HAS BEEN MAKING QUITE A PROFIT LATELY.

MISTER SIMA, YOU HAVE REALLY MADE A GOOD INVESTMENT ...

REMEMBER, THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH THE SIMA CLAN.

IT'S NOT ENOUGH. YUAN SHU HAS MONEY; HE'LL BUY NO MATTER THE COST.

NOW I SEE WHY YOU PRETEND TO BE A SERVANT.

YES YES YES, THIS IS JUST OUR SHIPYARD'S FORESIGHT.

JUST LIKE THAT, THE LOSSES AT YANZHOU ARE COMPLETELY RECOVERED FROM LUJIANG.

AMAZING, AMAZING.

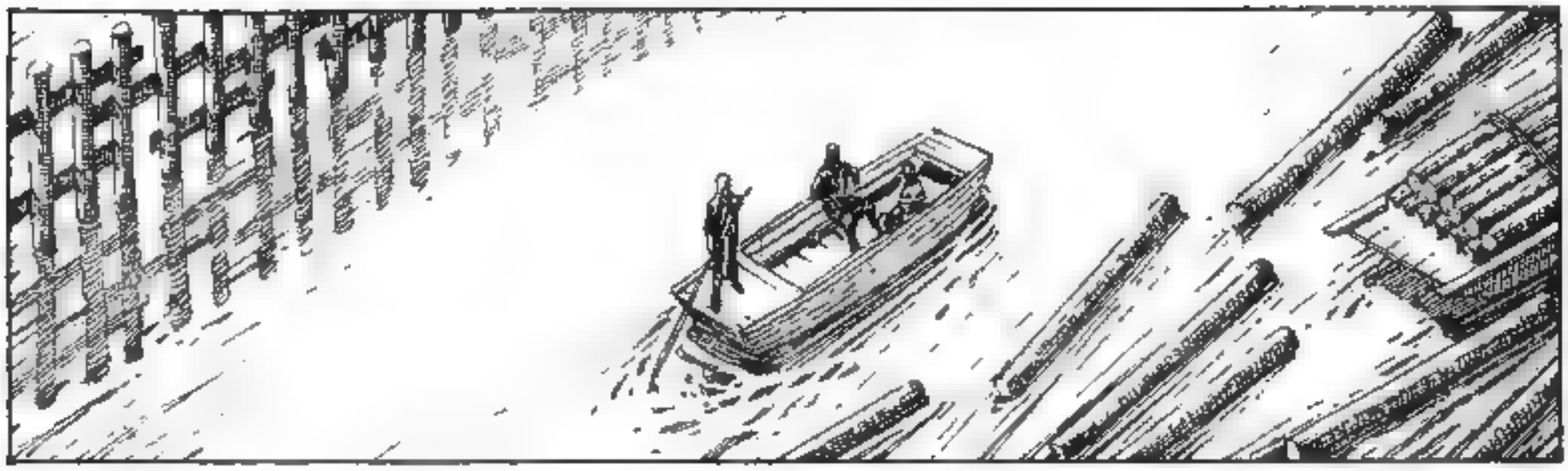
THE SIMA CLAN CERTAINLY MAKES NO LOSING DEALS.

OH, IS THIS... XIAO MENG?

NO, SHE'S A SHAN.

SHAN?

SHE... SHE'S... A SHAN?



THE SHAN CLAN HAS INVESTED SO MUCH AROUND HERE.

THE SHAN CLAN?
AREN'T THEY BEING EXTORTED NOW, AND THUS ALL BELONG TO THE SIMA CLAN?

PRICE-GAUGING THE YUAN CLAN; USE THE PROFIT TO SUPPORT THE SUN CLAN. A SMALL CAPITAL FOR A BIG PAYOFF; THE SHAN CLAN REALLY DOES HAVE A GOOD FORESIGHT.

THE FUNNY THING IS, THE SHAN CLAN STILL THINKS THAT I'M IN THE HANDS OF YUAN SHU,

AND ACTUALLY HANDED ALL THE SHIPYARDS TO A FAKE YUAN SHU.

WE'RE ALL WORKING FOR LORD CAO. I JUST HOPE THAT YOU KNOW WHAT MUST BE DONE.

I HAVE GAINED WHAT I WANTED, BUT HOW TO RECOVER SHAN CLAN'S LOSSES?

THAT'S NOT FOR ME TO SAY. YOU KNOW FULL WELL.

I NEED SOMEONE WHO KNOWS THE INS-AND-OUTS OF THIS REGION.

THE SHAN CLAN ALSO NEEDS A CUT IN THE EASTERN REGION PROFITS, RIGHT?

PROFIT TAKES PRIORITY, SO I HAVE NOTHING TO SAY AGAINST THAT.

YOU REALLY ARE CLEVER.

I THINK THE SHAN CLAN SHOULD TAKE OVER ALL THE SUPPORT WORK OF SUN CE'S EASTERN CONQUEST.

THAT'S WHAT I'VE BEEN WAITING TO HEAR, MISTER SIMA.

AREN'T YOU AFRAID THAT I'LL BACK-STAB YOU IF YOU LET ME GO? ONE DAY... YOU MIGHT REGRET IT.

MONEY GLITTERS IN OUR EYE; WE ARE ONE OF A KIND.

REGRET? REGRET THAT WE COULDN'T MEET SOONER?

LET ME SAY IT AGAIN.

YOU... REALLY HAVE NO SHAME.

THE SHAN CLAN,

IS ALREADY NEAR MY LIPS.

...UNKTATION FOR ABOUT TO BE TAKEN OVER IN A BUSINESS SENSE

CONVERSELY, SO IS THE SIMA CLAN.

A MATCH...

LIKE HELL.

MADE IN HEAVEN...

A DOG AND HIS BITCH.

(THE ENTIRE PHRASE IS ONE SENTENCE, BUT I CAN'T MAKE IT WORK WELL IN ENGLISH; NEED A BETTER PHRASE FOR THE LAST PART; HAVEN'T SEEN ENOUGH PIMP-RAP-MTV/GANGSTER FILMS... "DOG MAN WOMAN", WHICH HAS "MAN-WOMAN" TOGETHER MEANING "A COUPLE", SO INSTEAD OF THE CONJUNCTION PHRASE, IT'S MORE LIKE "A COUPLE OF DOGS" OR "A SLUTTY COUPLE", OR "A DESPICABLE PAIR", ETC.)

LIU YAO USED TO BE THE MINISTER OF YANGZHOU, AND THE GOVERNING OFFICE WAS SET AT SHOUCHUN. BUT AFTER YUAN SHU OCCUPIED SHOUCHUN, LIU YAO HAD TO MOVE TO THE OTHER SIDE OF THE LONG RIVER, AND TAKE UP DEFENSE

HENGJIANGJIN

WE SHOULD BEGIN STORING FOOD WHILE THE PRICE IS DROPPING.

SIR, THE INSPECTION TEAM HAS BOARDED THE SHIPS.

THIS YEAR'S GAIN IS PRETTY GOOD.

YEAH, LOTS OF MERCHANT SHIPS

SCANNER: HMH, WONDERLAND SCANNING GROUP
TRANSLATIONS: MERC, HTTP://MERCURYSBLOOD.LIVEJOURNAL.COM/2124
EDITS: KL SHODAR, HTTP://MEMBERS.OPTUSNET.COM.AU/SHODAR

CHAPTER 163 PRAYING MANTIS HUNTS THE CICADA

(THIS IS FIRST PART OF A CHINESE IDIOM, MEANING THAT WHEN YOU ONLY FOCUS ON YOUR PREY, YOU FORGOT THAT YOU ARE ALSO SOMEONE'S PREY; SEE CHAPTER 164'S TITLE FOR THE SECOND PART)

YES, DANGLIKOU IS SHORT ON RATIONS. THE TIMING IS PERFECT.

OH, MORE MERCHANT SHIPS?

HAVE YOU HEARD ANY-THING ABOUT SUN CE'S INVASION OF THE EASTERN REGION?

LIU YAO

NOTE: LIU YAO, YOUNGER BROTHER OF LIU DAI, WHO WAS THE FORMER MINISTER OF YANZHOU

BUT THERE'S ALWAYS THAT CHASM BETWEEN THE YUAN AND SUN CLAN. I THINK YUAN SHU WILL WATCH INSTEAD OF INTERFERE.

THOUGH EVERYONE ALREADY KNOWS THAT SUN CE WANTS TO START OVER.

IT'S STRANGE. INITIALLY SOME SAID SUN CE DIED, BUT NOW SOME ARE SAYING HE'S COMING FOR THE EASTERN REGION. OUR SPIES ARE STILL CHECKING THE CREDIBILITY OF THOSE REPORTS. IT SEEMS THAT THIS IS THE ENEMY'S DISTRACTION TACTIC.

MY LORD, I THINK YUAN SHU WILL BE THE ONE TO MAKE THE FIRST MOVE.

TAISHI CI

RIGHT, SHOUCHUN BORDERS XUZHOU TO ITS NORTH AND JINGZHOU TO ITS SOUTH, WHICH ARE BOTH TERRITORIES UNDER MEN OF THE LIU CLAN. IF HE'S GOING TO DECLARE HIMSELF THE EMPEROR, HE'LL AT LEAST HAVE TO GO THROUGH THOSE TWO IMPERIAL UNCLES.

BESIDES, IF CAO CAO TELLS THE EMPEROR TO ORDER THE ELIMINATION OF THAT REBEL, YUAN SHU WILL FACE ENEMIES ON THREE FRONTS.

YUAN SHU? I HEARD HE'S BUSY PLAYING EMPEROR. LIKE HE'LL HAVE TIME FOR US.

LITTLE TAISHI, YOU... STILL HAVE A LOT TO LEARN.

HOO, IF MY HOME ISN'T HERE...

YOU'RE STILL NOT EXPERI-ENCED ENOUGH, ZI YI.

NOTE: TAISHI CI, HIS COURTESY NAME IS ZI YI

MY LORD, THERE'S TROUBLE!

SPLASH.

YESTERDAY, YESTERDAY_

THE SHIPS THAT CAME IN THE HARBOR YESTERDAY ARE SUDDENLY ON FIRE, AND THEY'RE HEADING FOR THE SHORE!

THE FORESTS AROUND DANGLIKOU ARE ALL BURNING!

MY LORD, THOSE MERCHANT SHIPS!

THAT... IS NO MERCHANT SHIP.

PONG~

HOO~

PONG~

IT'S... THE SUN CLAN...

SUN? IT'S SUN CE'S FLEET!

ATTACKING HEAD ON? ARE THEY CRAZY?

YES. WE'VE ALREADY PUT IN THE DEFENSE MEASURES. THEY CAN'T LAND THIS WAY.

SOUND THE ALERT!

SOUND THE ALERT!

WOO~

WOO~

WOO~

WOO~

BATTLE HORN SFX

WOO~

WOO~

THEY ARE TOO FAST, WHA...

THEY'RE HERE! PREPARE THE FIRE ARROWS!

PA~

BURN THEIR SHIPS ONCE THEY DOCK!

KUH
BANG~

THE WATER WILL RUSH IN AND SINK THEM FOR SURE!

HAHAHA! THEY'VE BEEN STOPPED!

KA~

KA~

PONG~

PONG~

PONG~

KILL~

THE ENEMY HAS LANDED! HOLD THEM OFF!

SIR! THEY'VE LANDED ON THE RIGHT SIDE TOO!

SIR! THEY'VE BROKEN THROUGH THE LEFT SIDE!

TELL THE TROOP FROM THE MOUNTAINS TO GET HERE!

TELL ZHANG YIN FROM DANGLIKOU TO SEND REINFORCEMENTS!

THE ROAD BETWEEN HERE AND DANGLIKOU IS BEING SURROUNDED BY FIRE, MY LORD, AND THE MERCHANT SHIPS FROM YESTERDAY WILL BE BLOCKING THE WATERWAY...

MY LORD, THE ENEMY IS COMING UP HERE, PLEASE GIVE YOUR ORDER!

IT... IT WAS ALL PLANNED?

BY OUR LORD'S ORDER RETREAT INLAND! RETREAT!

THIS IS ONLY A SMALL HARBOR LET THEM HAVE IT!

TAISHI CI, DON'T BE RASH!

SUN CE'S ARMY IS SMALL. WE'LL LURE THEM INLAND AND SURROUND THEM THERE.

GOT IT.

熊

HENGJIANG-JIN'S "SUN CE ARMY" MUST HAVE LANDED BY NOW.

LIU YAO IS IN FOR A BIG SURPRISE ONCE WE BREACH JINGKOU AND SEND OUR FORCES INLAND.

LEAVE A FEW SHIPS ON THE RIVER TO KEEP ZHANG YIN'S NAVY IN A BIND.

THE WIND HAS MADE THINGS DRY AND FLAMMABLE. THE SHORE IS BURNED WITH JUST A FEW SHIPS. NICE!

UNDER-
STOOD.

RUMORS OF OUR FAILED AMBUSH HAVE ALREADY BEEN SENT TO THE CITY OF DONGAN. TROOPS HAVE BEEN DIS-PATCHED TO RESCUE US.

VERY GOOD.

DON'T FORGET, MY LORD, WE DIDN'T WIN. WE LOST TO THE FIRES AT JINGKOU.

VERY GOOD.

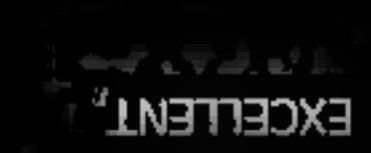
THE CITY OF DONGAN

SUN CE FELL FOR IT, COMING HERE WITH HIS ENTIRE ARMY.

THEY SHOW[illegible] AFTER THE REINFOR-CEMENT[illegible]

DON'T DEPLOY TOO MANY MEN AT THE GATE. LET THEM COME IN.

COME
IN TO
GET


EXCELLENT

THE WEATHER IS NICE

"COLOR/SHADE OF THE SKY", NOT EXACTLY CLIMATE/WEATHER. I THINK THE TERM MAY ALSO REFER TO THE NIGHTTIME DARKNESS.

殺——

WHAT'S GOING ON?

唰——

CHAPTER 184 THE GOLDEN CIRCLE FROM BEHIND

A PRE

THE SPY DISCOVERED A TROOP TO OUR NORTH MOVING TOWARD WAN.

THERE'S A TROOP TO OUR NORTH?

WAN NORTH

SUN CE HAS BEEN LURED BACK.

BOY THAT LIU XUN, ATTACKING JINGKOU TO LURE SUN CE TO HIS DEATH.

HAD THE SECRET NOT BEEN LEAKED TO US, LIU XUN WOULD HAVE WON ALL THE CREDIT FOR ELIMINATING SUN CE.

OUR LORD TREATS SUN CE WITH "GENEROSITY", BUT SUN CE TRIED TO TAKE OUR DONGAN. THIS PROOF IS ENOUGH TO CONDEMN HIM WITHOUT MERCY.

LIU XUN, A FOOL LIKE YOU IS NOT FIT TO BE GENERAL-IN-CHIEF.

HEGUANZI SAID, A LEAF OVER THE EYE BLOCKS MT. TAI FROM VIEW.

THIS DARKNESS IS PERFECT FOR AN AMBUSH.

MOUNTAINS. WORE PHEASANT ON HIS HEAD

THE CITY OF DONGAN

SUN CE RETREATED NEAR THE BRINK OF CONFRONTATION? DID SOMEONE LEAK OUR PLAN?

IF THEY CAME FROM THE NORTH, IT MUST BE JI LING'S TROOP.

SINCE SUN CE CAME WITH ALL OF HIS FORCES, WAN WILL BE EMPTY. JI LING ONLY HAS TO OCCUPY NORTH OF WAN TO FORCE SUN CE TO RETURN.

THEY CAN SET THE AMBUSH AT NORTH OF WAN, AND SUN CE'S DISTRESSED ARMY WILL BE CAUGHT OFF-GUARD. BRILLIANT!

SIR, OUR REINFORCEMENT FOR JINGKOU HAS SPOTTED ANOTHER ONE OF SUN CE'S TROOPS!

GENERAL LIU XUN GAVE THIS BIG MISSION TO ME; THERE'S NO WAY I'M LOSING THE VICTORY TO JI LING. LET'S SEND A TROOP TO AMBUSH THEM FROM THE BACKSIDE!

THEIR TROOP IS SMALL, SO GENERAL CHEN XING DECIDED TO FIGHT THEM TO THE END!

HAVE THEY CLASHED?

YOU HAVE FINALLY RETURNED, SIR!

THE REINFORCEMENT FOR JINGKOU IS ACTUALLY HEADING FOR WAN?

YESSIR, THAT'S ZHOU YU'S FAKE ATTACK STRATEGY.

LIU YI

RETURNED TO CLEAN UP THE MESS.

FORMATIONS

噠

噠

SUN CE'S ARMY IS BACK?

IMPOSSIBLE! THAT FAST?

I AM HAN DANG, FROM SUN CE'S ARMY!

HERE TO LURE THE ENEMIES TO THEIR DEATHS!

AN... AMBUSH?

AMBUSH? DID WE RECEIVE FALSE INFORMATION?

ENEMY AMBUSH AHEAD; STOP!

IT'S DARK; ARCHERS, GET READY!

IT'S DARK; ARCHERS, GET READY!

GET READY!

SUN CE'S ARMY IS SMALL. WEAR THEM DOWN WITH ARROWS!

WEAR THEM DOWN WITH ARROWS!

ARROW FLYING SFX)

咻

IMPOSSIBLE!
HOW COULD
THE MAN
SO MANY
APPOW?

SIR! THE ENEMY HAS A LOT OF ARROWS REQUEST A CAVALRY ATTACK!

TEAM ONE HAS SPOTTED THE ENEMY!

THEYRE HERE! LETS GO FIRST!

THEYRE HERE! LETS GO FIRST!

STRANGE, THEIR FORMATION IS THE SAME AS OURS?

CLASH!!

GENERAL QIAO THEYRE LIGHTING UP TOO!

IT'S TOO DARK LIGHT UP SOME TORCHES!

WOAH~
生

GENERAL QIAO... HOW... HOW CAN IT BE YOU?

CHEN XING, AREN'T YOU LEADING THE REINFORCEMENT TO LIU XUN AT JINGKOU?

WE FOUND HAN DANG ON THE WAY AND STARTED PURSUING THEM!

THEN... THE ONES FIGHTING...

A LEAF OVER THE EYE,

BLOCKS MT. TAI FROM VIEW.

(HORSE NEIGH)

NO!

CHING PU

WITHOUT A LIGHT IN THE SKY;

("A NIGHT WHERE STARS AND THE MOON HAVE NO SHINE").

YUAN SHU'S SOUTHERN AND NORTHERN ARMIES FOUGHT A MIXED-UP BATTLE AT NORTH OF WAN; NEITHER SIDE COULD SEE OR HEAR...

THE CITY OF DONGAN

YES. IT'S UNFORTUNATE THAT I RETURNED LATE...

IN ORDER TO PREVENT ANOTHER LEAK, I HAVE TO TAKE OVER THE OPERATIONS HERE. ANY OBJECTIONS?

TH... THERE REALLY WAS AN INSIDER LEAKING OUR INFORMATION?

VERY GOOD. THE BATTLE AT NORTH OF WAN HAS STARTED, RIGHT?

YES!

(WE'RE) YOURS TO COMMAND!

CHAPTER 165 IMPERIAL CLAN'S REMINISCENCE

IT'S DARK; CAN'T TELL FRIEND FROM FOE.

WE ARE THE SOUTHERN ARMY, JI LING IS OF THE NORTH. COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE TWO ARE INFREQUENT, HENCE THEY CAN'T TELL IMMEDIATELY.

IF MY CALCULATIONS ARE CORRECT, HAN DANG'S TROOP THAT WAS DISCOVERED IN JINGKOU INTENDED TO LURE OUR REINFORCEMENTS TO MEET JI LING AT NORTH OF WAN.

THEY'LL HAVE TO WAIT TILL MORNING TO FIND OUT THE TRUTH... BUT THE LOSSES WOULD BE TOO GREAT BY THEN.

DON'T WORRY, LIU XUN AND I ARE FRIENDS... HOW CAN I JUST STAND BY?

MY ARMY WILL GUARD DONGAN, WHILE YOU SHOULD DIVIDE YOUR FORCES IN TWO.

MY LORD (LIU XUN) HAD A LOFTY GOAL, BUT SADLY HE HAS NOW MADE A BIG MISTAKE. I HOPE YOU CAN ADVISE US, LORD LIU.

BUT... LORD LIU, THEY WILL SORT THEMSELVES OUT ONCE MORNING COMES; WHY SEND REINFORCEMENTS? AND ALSO, WHY SEND TROOPS WESTWARD?

XINCHUN?

I WANT DIVISION TWO TO GO STRAIGHT INTO XINCHUN!

DIVISION ONE WILL AID THOSE AT NORTH OF WAN; DIVISION TWO WILL HEAD WESTWARD FOR A SURPRISE ATTACK.

IF THERE WAS SOME-ONE LEAKING OUR INFORM-ATION... WHO ELSE DO YOU THINK HE'LL TALK TO?

AREN'T YOU LIU XUN'S MAN?

YOU... YOU'RE GENERAL JI LING!

STOP IMMEDI-ATELY!

STOP! WE'RE ON THE SAME SIDE!

SHOO~

CHA~

嚓

GENERAL!!

GENERAL JI, OVER THERE!

IF I WERE SUN CE...

SO IT IS!

IT'S TIME FOR US TO MAKE A MOVE!

THEIR CASUALTY IS ALREADY OVER HALF.

WHEN OUR TWO SIDES ARE WEAKENED BY THE SKIRMISH... IT'S THE PERFECT TIME FOR LIU BIAO TO ATTACK US.

ONE, HE CAN SEVERELY DAMAGE OUR MAIN FORCE, PREPARING FOR HIS INVASION OF THE EASTERN REGION.

TWO, HE CAN TAKE WAN WHEN SUN CE IS AWAY, THEN TRY TO KILL HIM AND REMOVE A POTENTIAL PROBLEM FOR THE FUTURE.

TEAM TWO SHALL ATTACK XINCHUN BY SURPRISE; YOU MUST FORCE LIU BIAO TO WITHDRAW AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

IF THEY DON'T WITH-DRAW, THE OPPORTUNISTIC WARLORDS WILL SURELY COME TO REAP THE BENEFIT.

THEIR EXCUSE IS EVEN MORE ABSURD ...

EVERYONE LISTEN UP: TEAM ONE SHALL DEPART FOR WAN; SAVE JI LING TO MAKE UP FOR THE MISTAKE.

YOU... YOU MEAN LORD YUAN SHU'S PROCLAMATION FOR EMPEROR-SHIP?

YES. LIKE THE ALLIED FORCES WHO FOUGHT DONG ZHUO, BUT WERE AFTER THE WORLD ALL ALONG.

TEAM ONE TO NORTH OF WAN; TEAM TWO TO XINCHUN!

THE RATIONS TROOP WILL FOLLOW SOON!

A SUCCESS. DIMINUTION TACTIC ACHIEVED WITHOUT ANY CASUALTIES.

ONE STONE FOR THREE BIRDS. NOW THE EASTERN REGION CAN BE TAKEN WITHOUT NAGGING CONCERNS.

唯

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, LORD LIU?

AND LASTLY, THEY LURE LIU XUN INTO THE EASTERN REGION TO DISTRACT LIU YAO'S ARMY. THAT'S USING THE RIGHT PEOPLE.

FIRST THEY WEAKEN OUR TWO ARMIES AT NIGHT. THAT'S USING THE RIGHT TIMING.

ALL THREE SIDES WILL HAVE SPENT A LOT OF RESOURCES - NOT EASILY RECOVERABLE IN A FEW YEARS.

THIS WAY SUN CE CAN COME IN WITHOUT ANY FEAR OF BEING ATTACKED, EVEN IF HE HAS A SMALL ARMY.

THEN THEY LURE LIU BIAO DEEP INTO LUJIANG, MAKING YUAN SHU AND LIU BIAO KEEP ONE ANOTHER IN CHECK. THAT'S USING THE RIGHT LOCATION.

LIU XUN HAS MADE A SERIOUS MISTAKE. WHO KNOWS WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO HIM IF LORD YUAN DECIDES TO INVESTIGATE THIS.

THEN I'LL REPORT EVERYTHING TO MY LORD AND ASK HIM TO COME BACK.

IT'S ALSO SOMETHING I'VE COME TO LEARN WITHIN THESE MONTHS.

BUT SINCE HE HOLDS THE MILITARY COMMAND, IF HE JUST STAYS IN JINGKOU, LORD YUAN CAN ONLY TREAT HIM NICELY.

I HEARD THAT YOU HAVE BEEN GATHERING RELATIVES OF THE IMPERIAL CLAN TO SUPPORT LORD YUAN SHU'S ASCENDANCY TO EMPERORSHIP.

GENERALS STAY OUT OF REACH WHILE THE LORD STAYS IN THE COURT. THAT'S HOW TO KEEP PEACE WITH THE VASSALS.

SECONDLY, THE ONE WHO LEAKED INFORMATION WAS ME.

AND THIRDLY, IF YUAN SHU WANTS TO BECOME THE EMPEROR...

THAT'S ONE ASPECT. BUT, THE PERSON I ASKED TO COME IS LIU BIAO.

QUITE A SERIES OF REASONING.

HOW CAN THE DESCENDANTS OF THE IMPERIAL CLAN JUST IGNORE IT?

I THINK THIS IS WORD-PLAY. IN THE PHRASE, "ONE EXAMPLE TO INFER THREE"

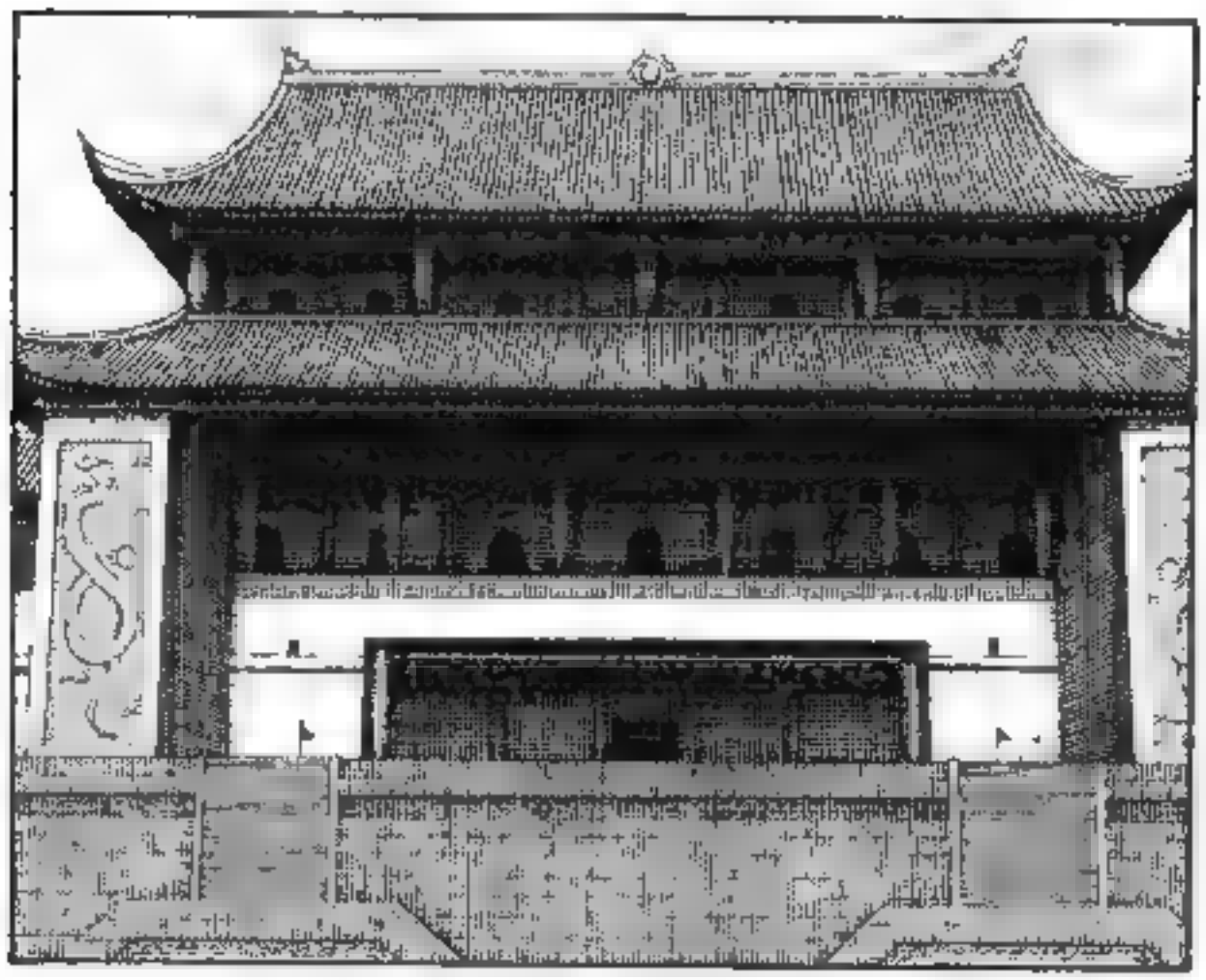
I AM A VASSAL OF HAN,

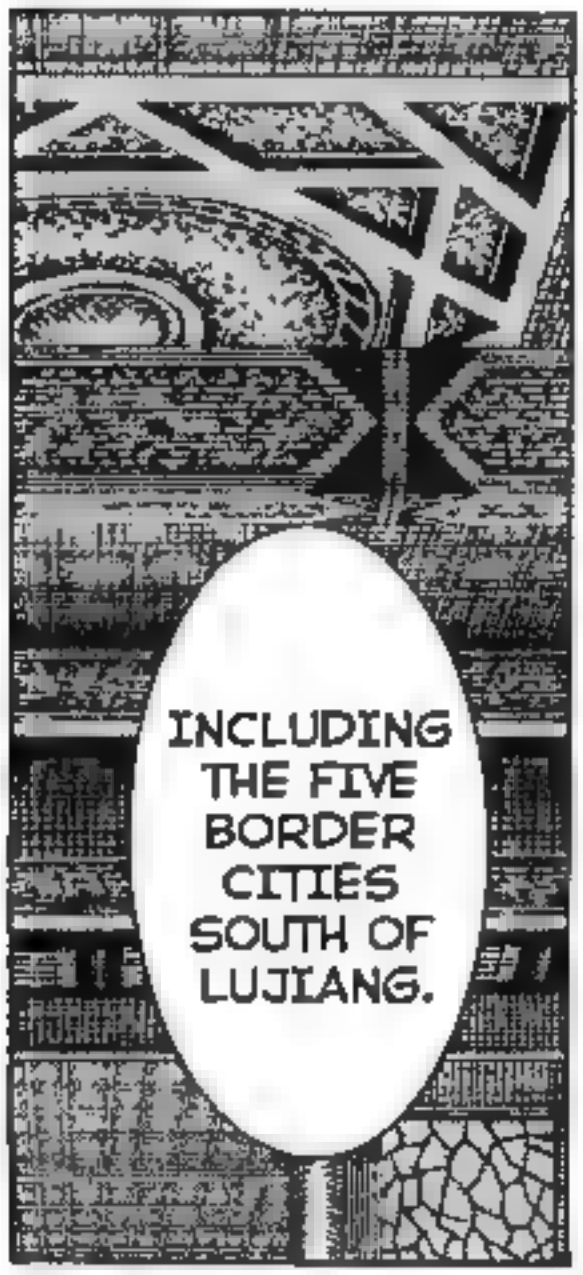
HERE TO GREET IMPERIAL UNCLE LIU YE.

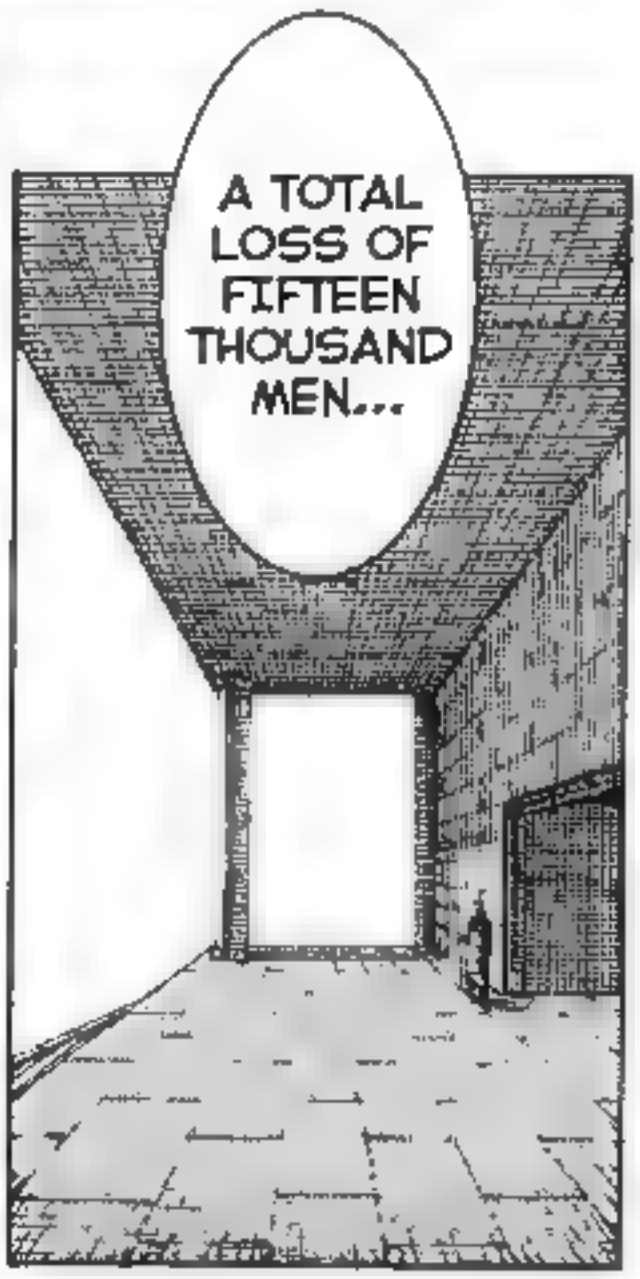
SUN BO FU,

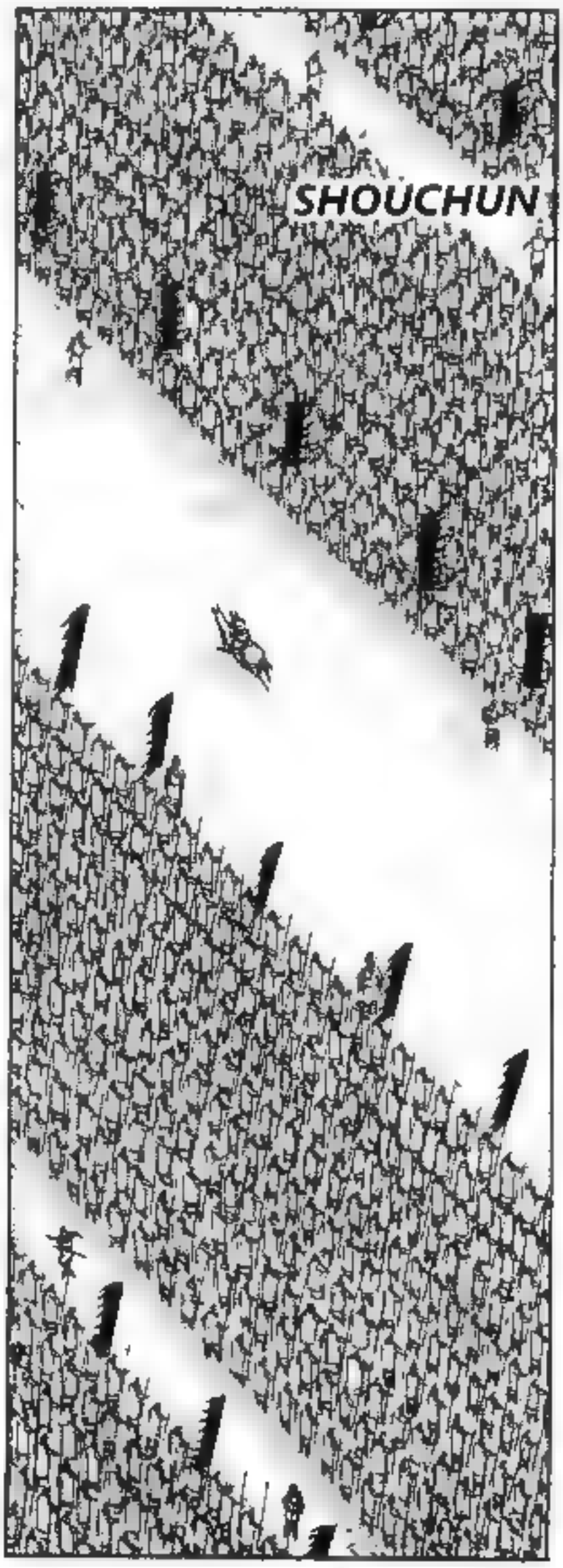
THE IMPERIAL CLAN MISSES
YOUR FATHER'S LOYALTY!

WHEN IT COMES TO STRATEGIES, HOW MANY PEOPLE UNDERSTAND THE MEANING OF RESOURCEFULNESS?









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CHAPTER 168 BRAWNS AND BRAINS

THE SITUATION THERE IS DIRE, SO I'VE CALLED IN REINFORCE-MENTS FROM HEFEI.

YES, AND OUR ARMIES AT HUAINAN MUST DEFEND AGAINST XUZHOU'S LIU BEI; THEREFORE WE CAN'T GIVE JI LING MORE TROOPS. WE NEED ANOTHER METHOD TO DISPEL LIU BIAO'S ARMY.

THEN FOR THE TIME BEING, JI LING'S TROOP MUST REMAIN AT SOUTH OF LUJIANG TO DEFEND AGAINST LIU BIAO?

THEN TRANSFER LIU XUN BACK FROM JINGKOU.

NO, HE'S IN TOO DEEP. IF HE COMES BACK NOW, WE CAN'T PREDICT HOW LIU YAO'S COUNTER-OFFENSIVE WILL END UP...

IMPOSSIBLE! SUN CE'S ARMY IS SMALL. HOW CAN HE BREACH DONGAN THAT FAST?

RIGHT! THEY ARE DOUBLE THE SIZE OF SUN CE'S ARMY. EVEN IF HALF OF DONGAN'S FORCES WENT TO JINGKOU, THE OTHER HALF CAN STILL...

THE OTHER HALF WERE SENT TO ATTACK XINCHUN, BUT THEY WERE AMBUSHED ON THE WAY, ALREADY... ANNIHILATED!

SUN... SUN CE HAS BREACHED DONGAN!

AND LIU YE, WHO WAS GUARDING DONGAN, SURRENDERED THE CITY TO SUN CE!

JINGKOU

"SOWING DISCORD AMONG THE ENEMY". WE FELL FOR IT.

IT'S TOO LATE.

BACK TO YOUR POSTS. ZHOU YU IS ALREADY LONG GONE.

ACHIEVING DIMINUTION WITHOUT SUFFERING ANY CASUALTIES. THAT BOY ZHOU YU REALLY IS A GENIUS...

DONGAN'S LOST, AND SO ARE THE SHORES. WE CAN'T GO BACK. WE HAVE TO KEEP GUARDING HERE.

OUR SNEAKY ACTIONS THIS TIME RUINED JI LING'S MISSION, AND IF HE REPORTS TO OUR LORD...

WE"LL BE IN HOT WATERS IF OUR LORD DECIDES TO HOLD SOMEONE RESPONSIBLE.

LIU YE TOLD YOU TO SAY THAT, RIGHT?

WE HAVE ENOUGH RESOURCES TO KEEP THIS TERRITORY. LORD YUAN CAN'T REALLY DO ANYTHING TO US IF WE STAY.

HE SAID HE DOESN'T WANT YOU TO SERVE THE WRONG LORD AND BECOME AN ENEMY TO THE WORLD.

THAT YEAR LIU XUN SETTLED AROUND JIANG AND HUAI REGIONS, FORMING HIS OWN INFLUENCE. HE WAS FINE EVEN AFTER YUAN SHU'S FIASCO.

LIU YE...

SOME "FRIEND" YOU ARE, STINKING BRAT.

THE CITY OF DONGAN. HARBOR

THE SHIPYARD HAS INDEED DELIVERED ON TIME. THAT MISTER HUANG IS REALLY WORTH DOING BUSINESS WITH.

WHILE LIU XUN IS STUCK IN JINGKOU, AND HE MUST ALSO DEAL WITH LIU YAO; AND THEIR FORCE AT HUAINAN MUST DEFEND AGAINST XUZHOU'S LIU BEI.

RIGHT NOW YUAN SHU'S MAIN FORCE HAS BEEN SPLIT INTO THREE GROUPS. JI LING IS FORCED TO REMAIN AT SOUTH OF LUJIANG, AND HE MUST KEEP XINCHUN'S LIU BIAO ARMY IN CHECK;

YUAN SHU MAY HAVE A BIGGER ARMY, BUT HE WOULDN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH US.

SO IT SEEMS...

MY PLAN TO TAKE THE EASTERN REGION,

CAN PROCEED WITHOUT ANY NAGGING CONCERNS.

I ACCEPT YOUR GOOD-WILL IN THE NAME OF MY FATHER.

HOW MANY WARMONGERS UNDERSTAND THE SUFFERING OF THE PEOPLE?

THE COMMON FOLKS AROUND THE JIANG AND HUAI REGIONS ARE THRILLED TO HEAR THAT THE SUN CLAN CAN START OVER. SO IN RESPONSE TO THEIR DESIRE, WE'RE HERE TO SERVE YOU.

JIANG QIN

ZHOU TAI

THE COMMON FOLKS MAY BE SUFFERING, BUT THEY UNDERSTAND THAT THEY MUST ACT PROACTIVELY TO OBTAIN A LONG-LASTING PEACE.

I WILL GIVE IT MY ALL TO RESTORE IMPERIAL HAN, SO AS TO RELIEVE THEM OF THEIR SUFFERING!

DON'T WORRY, YOU HAVE THE PEOPLE'S SUPPORT. NO OBSTACLE CAN STAND IN YOUR WAY.

ALL THANKS TO YOU.

NO, THIS IS HEAVEN'S WILL.

YOU ARE MY "HEAVEN"!

ZHOU YU,

XUZHOU.
XIAPI

WHATEVER, THE CHEN FAMILY NEVER HAD TO PAY.

ALTHOUGH XU DAN DID PAY A LOT.

THIS YEAR'S TAX REVENUE IS QUITE GOOD, EXCEPT SOMEONE REFUSES TO PAY ON PURPOSE.

XIAOPEI? ANY NEWS OF LU BU?

HE'S STILL IN A SLUMP. EVER SINCE HIS BLUNTNESS AT THAT BANQUET, THE PEOPLE OF XUZHOU AVOID HIM LIKE THE PLAGUE.

I HEARD THAT HE'S DRAFTING FOR US IN XIAOPEI, A COMMENDABLE ACT IF YOU ASK ME.

BUT WE HAVE TO STAY ON GUARD AGAINST THIS MAN.

YESTERDAY A MESSENGER FROM THE EMPEROR CAME TO SEE OUR BIG BROTHER. I THINK CAO CAO WANTS TO USE US TO ELIMINATE LU BU.

SO WHAT? I CAN BARELY WAIT.

OR AT LEAST START THE SPARK.

AN OPEN ATTACK CAN BE COUNTERED; BUT AN UNDER-HANDED MOVE IS HARD TO DEFEND AGAINST.

A CHINESE PROVERB, SOME TRANSLATE IT TO BE "FALSE FRIENDS MAKE BITTER ENEMIES"

NOBODY SAID YOU HAVE TO DO THE DIRTY WORK.

OUR BIG BROTHER DIDN'T TELL US, SO I THINK THAT FOOL DOESN'T LIKE IT.

I FINALLY UNDERSTAND WHY THE CHEN FAMILY DOESN'T HAVE TO PAY TAXES.

I HAVE A GREAT CANDIDATE FOR THE JOB.

THE CHEN FAMILY HAS ALWAYS BEEN GOOD AT MAINTAINING THE FIGHTING FORCE OF XUZHOU.

WOAH~

RIGHT, THERE'S NO FREE LUNCH.

PLEASE TAKE A SEAT.

BIRDS OF A FEATHER,

FLOCK TOGETHER.

【下期預告】
同是英雄

神眼明录

第二十一期

同為天下

火鳳燎原

第二十集

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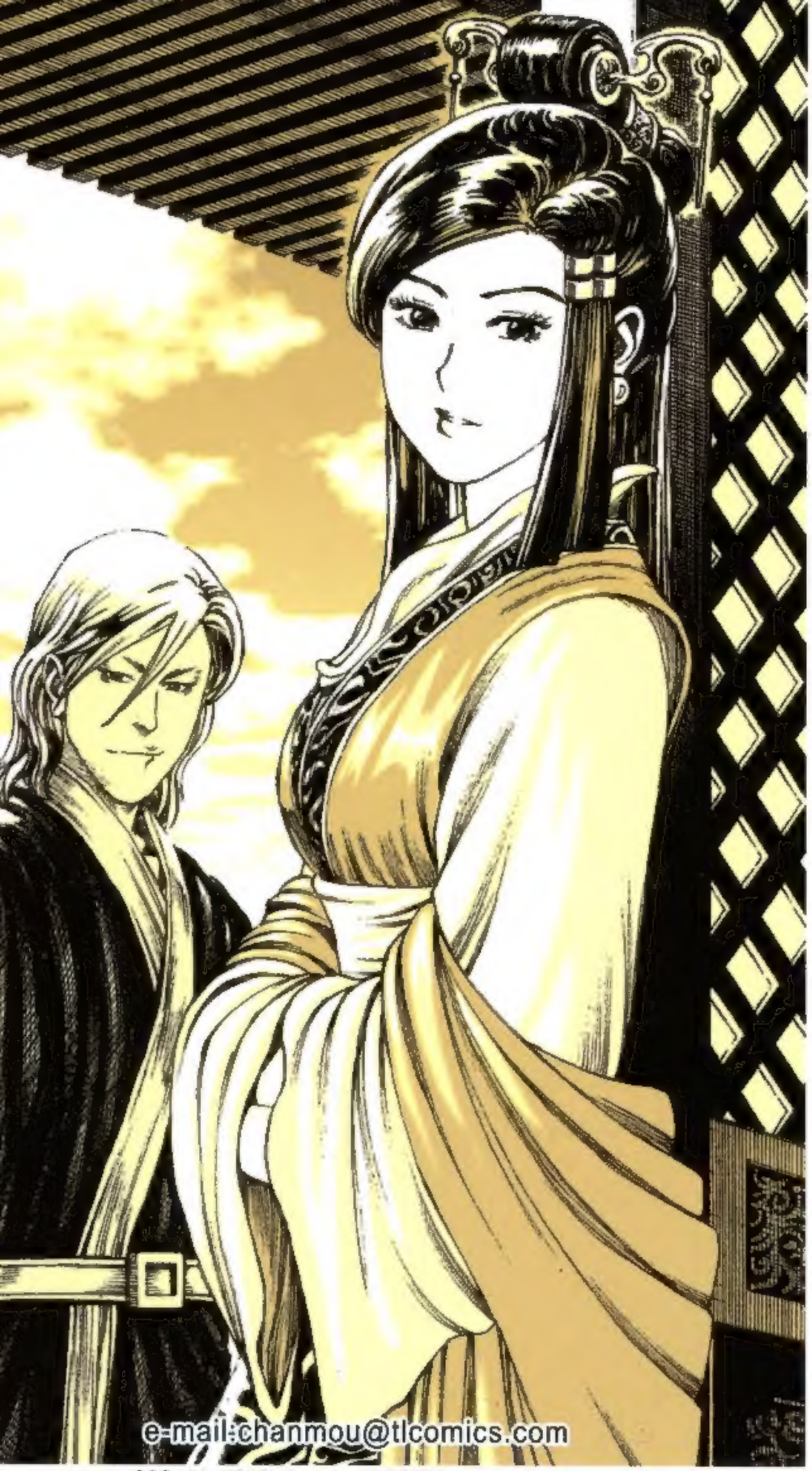

孫策智勇冠天意屬周郎

袁術的皇帝夢日漸成真，當他以為已經手擁天下時，卻不知道在虛假光榮的背後，魔下眾將正互爭功名而墮進周瑜的連環計中。下江東行動邁向關鍵時刻，天可會保佑孫策成功踏上父親未完的忠義之路？陳某繼【不是人】之後，再度呈現一個縱橫幻想與史實的三國時代……

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燎原後語

不知不覺，《火鳳燎原》已邁進第二十集了。

以香港的流行厚裝漫畫來說，大概是一個紀錄吧。

每次走進漫畫店，看見自己的一列作品能在芸芸日本漫畫中佔一地位，厚面皮的說，真的有一種滿足感。

今年最高興的，也就是《火鳳》能登陸日本。

今年最好笑的，是日本讀者的回函：「能看見外國人畫三國，真的很新鮮。」

…我笑了半天。

某

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